SANDWELL
CHRONICLE

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STARS SHINE

Crowds enjoy Goldbury celebration

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CRAIG'S CALL

Player hits out at fans' attack on Brunt

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REVAMP BEGINS AT CREMATORIUM

WORK has started on a £1.3 million project to revamp and expand a crematorium in Sandwell.

Rowley Regis Crematorium, in Powke Lane, was first opened in 1962. Now it is being updated to enable it to accommodate larger groups of mourners. The project will see the site's chapel double in size to provide more than 100 seats for funeral services.

by Charlie Benton

Architects Martin Critchell are working in conjunction with local funeral directors and Sandwell Council's bereavement services on the design for the modernisation.

Work will also focus on creating a new entrance, improved toilet facilities, additional car parking spaces, improvements to the interior and exterior of the building and a new waiting area for families. Wolverhampton-based Interclass Plc has secured the contract to complete the modernisation of the crematorium.

Director and general manager Don Ward said: "Our team will be working closely with council staff throughout this project to ensure that we respect the sensitive nature of the site so that disruption to funeral services is kept to a minimum." Councillor Mahboob Hussain, Sandwell Council's deputy leader, said: "We are always looking at new ways of making improvements to frontline services and the work at Rowley Regis Crematorium is just one of a number that have been made."

Sandwell Council said the crematorium will continue to be open for business for the majority of the seven months of the work. As part of the improvements to the Sandwell Valley Crematorium in West Bromwich, a £1.2m centre – allowing post-mortem examinations to be carried out without the need for surgery, using 3D scanners to confirm cause of death – is being planned.

It is hoped that the new centre will make the process less traumatic for bereaved families, who would be able to request a digital autopsy when a post-mortem is required. The new centre will open in October.

Foghorn something to shout about

Councillor Mahboob Hussain, left, with Sandwell Council arts manager, Garry Morris, at Oak House Visitor Centre

IT was once a symbol of Black Country engineering, keeping ships safe at sea.

Now a replica of the famous Sandwell Foghorn has gone on display, standing proudly outside the Oak House in West Bromwich.

The replica foghorn was created three years ago as part of an art project celebrating Black Country heritage. The 19ft long horn, with a diameter of 9ft, was created from designs once used by the historic Chance Brothers glassworks in Smethwick. Photographs of the original foghorn were used.

Chance Brothers established a major lighthouse engineering company in the 19th Century. Garry Morris, one of those who commissioned the replica, said it was a chance for the public to take a closer look at it. Mr Morris said: "Putting on a display like this gives people the chance to see just how large it is.

"It takes hours to assemble. We have to put it together using nuts and bolts. We like to tour it around the area and show it off. It celebrates the industrial heritage of Sandwell."

Foghorns were used to warn ships that they were approaching rocks in foggy conditions when lighthouses were of no use. The replica foghorn was made by Ian Moran, a blacksmith and artist based in Cradley Heath.

The idea came from workshops with residents and community groups as part of the Forging Links scheme.

It was funded by £50,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, £20,000 from the Museums Library and Archives Council and £5,000 from Forging Links, the Sandwell-based museums and arts project.

It will remain on display until Friday, tomorrow, after that is is going to the Red House Glass Cone in Stourbridge until the end of November.

Helping young up the jobs Ladder

THE Express & Star has launched the Ladder for the Black Country campaign to help unemployed young adults into work with paid apprenticeships.

The newspaper is appealing to firms to take on at least one apprentice and it is urging young people to grab this opportunity.

Youth unemployment in the Black Country is more than double the national average of 3.9 per cent. Wolverhampton has the longest dole queues in England.

Charity

Sandwell, Walsall and Dudley also all feature in the top 12 youth unemployment blackspots.

Backed by the Duke of York Prince Andrew, the Express & Star has teamed up with the Vine Trust, a charity that is already helping to get young people into work, to create at least 500 new apprenticeships.

Training provider Performance Through People (PTP), the Black Country Chamber of Commerce, and Ikea Wednesbury are also leading partners.

The newspaper has this week taken on five new apprentice journalists.

Interested firms should go to www.ladderfortheblackcountry.co.uk or call 03332 409 699.

Paul in 10k runs finish

A BUSINESSMAN has run 300 kilometres in a bid to help save the sight of 30 children.

Paul Whitehouse, managing director at Birmingham-based WM Creative, celebrated the 30th anniversary of the company by undertaking the challenge.

He ran 30, 10 kilometre races in a bid to raise £3,000 for the Sightsavers charity.

The final leg was completed at Sandwell Valley on Monday night with supporters including Blind Dave Heeley.

Third blaze at depot

A FIRE which swept through a derelict warehouse sending plumes of pale smoke in the sky was the third arson attack at the same site in as many weeks, a fire chief has revealed.

Firefighters were also pelted with bricks as they tackled the fire in Friar Park Road in Wednesbury.

Arsonists had set fire to a large pile of scrap wood in the site's yard.

Around 15 firefighters were sent to the scene on Monday and worked quickly due to concerns the smoke could contain toxic chemicals. As a precaution, people living near the site were asked to close their windows.

Security at fire-hit school is increased

SECURITY will be stepped up at a derelict fire-hit school in the Black Country in a bid to stop further arson attacks.

A blaze ripped through the former Holt Farm Primary School in Blackheath at the weekend. Police are investigating the fire and have now confirmed it was started intentionally.

The 105-year-old building has been empty since 2006 but residents say it is a popular target for vandals.

Part of the roof was destroyed by the blaze, which took more than two hours to extinguish. Flames and huge plumes of black smoke were visible for miles around the scene.

Initially only crews from Smethwick attended the scene after the fire was reported at around 4.10pm on Saturday but when the scale of the fire was established back up was called and crews from Dudley, Highgate, Oldbury, Tipton, Ladywood and Haden Cross joined them.

Now the council has promised to increase security around the site.

A spokeswoman for West Midlands Police said: "The attack was arson and officers in the area are now carrying out door to door inquiries and exploring CCTV in the area. No arrests have yet been made."

Volleyball in £10k boost

RESIDENTS can try their hand at volleyball thanks to a £10,000 funding boost.

Sandwell Spikers has been set up with the aim of bringing volleyball to the people of the borough – and will be setting up teams for all ages and both sexes.

Funding was secured from Sport England, which allowed a satellite club to be created at George Salter Academy. For more information visit www.volleyballengland.org or call Ketan Patel on 07840 460883.

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Jodie tries out the track with some youngsters

Jaswant with the strong arm of the law

Jaswant Shergill, Mikail Huggins with a fan

Goldbury sees stars get a hero's welcome

All aboard for Goldbury, Jodie Stimpson, Jaswant Shergill, Mikail Huggins and Chinu

Fan Molly Jenner, aged nine, with Jodie

On track for more fun during the celebrations

Jodie, with her two gold medals, at the gold bus stop

THEY shone on the sporting stage at this year's Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

And on Saturday four athletes from the Games were given a hero's welcome on home turf in front of hundreds of people at a special event held for them in Oldbury.

Scores of families descended on the town – renamed Goldbury for the day – to catch a glimpse of the Sandwell athletes.

Triathlete Jodie Stimpson, who bagged two gold medals at the Games in Glasgow, took centre stage along with guide runner Mikail Huggins who led blind athlete Libby Clegg to gold in the 100m, Wolverhampton Wrestling Club wrestler Chinu who got bronze and weightlifter Jaswant Shergill who set a personal best.

And all four, who are from Oldbury, said they were overwhelmed by the number of people who had turned out to salute them. Jodie said: "It's been breathtaking. I didn't expect that amount of people to come out and see us.

"It meant such a lot and I was very humbled by it. It seems the whole of Sandwell has backed us.

"I hope all of us who took part in the Commonwealth Games have gone on to inspire a new generation of athletes and that there will be lots of young Sandwell stars among them." Jodie, a former Oldbury Swimming and Triathlon Club (STC) member, won gold medals in the solo and mixed triathlon. She added it had been nice spending time with family over the past fortnight but said she would be back in training for her next race, the Challenge Bahrain, in December.

Wonderful

Sandwell's mayor Councillor Derek Rowley hosted a civic reception honouring the borough's sports heroes. And they all stepped out onto the balcony of the council house to be greeted with cheers from the crowd below.

Councillor Rowely said: "What a wonderful bunch of people they are." And council leader Darren Cooper added: "It was honour to celebrate our athletes' success and turn Oldbury into Goldbury for the day.

"It goes to show how hard work and dedication can pay off and I wish all four athletes continued success."

As part of the celebrations, a bus stop was sprayed gold, road signs renamed Goldbury and the town centre was transformed into a mini sports arena for youngsters.

Oldbury's Jaswant added: "The people who came to see us were incredible. It was a wonderful feeling coming out onto the balcony and seeing all their faces down below."

Death of man, 81, followed fracture

AN 81-year-old man who died less than two weeks after being released from hospital died of natural causes, a coroner has ruled.

Lawrence Chambers had been admitted to Birmingham City Hospital after suffering a fall at his home in Smethwick, and had an operation to put a pin in his hip after fracturing his femur.

The former assembly worker, who was born in Jamaica, also suffered from breathing problems due to the swelling of his thyroid gland, known as a goitre, which was pressing on his trachea.

Mr Chambers, of Lightswood Road, was released from hospital on June 21 last year.

Assistant coroner for the Black Country Dr Andrew Thompson said his death came just nine days later, due to natural causes.

Dr Martin Carey, a pathologist at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, conducted the post mortem on Mr Chambers and said he died of a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and amyloid in the heart.

Dr Carey added: "The strain of the fracture is not uncommon in elderly people and quite often the body cannot take the strain."

Arson attack on wood pile

PLUMES of smoke were sent soaring into the sky after arsonists torched a pile of scrap in Wednesbury.

Flames engulfed the large pile of wood on land, off Friar Park Road, shortly after 4.40pm on Sunday.

West Midlands Fire Service advised residents nearby to keep their windows closed with smoke bellowing into the air.

Around 15 firefighters attended the blaze from West Bromwich and Ladywood fire stations

It is the third time in as many weeks that crews have been called to the scene.

Dome bid agreed

A NEW dome is to be built on a Sikh temple in West Bromwich. Guru Nanak Sikh Temple submitted plans for the dome at the front of the building, a former British Legion Club, which will take the building ito 54ft high. The plans were agreed by the council.

Family in shock as arsonist pours fuel

A MOTHER watched in horror as an arsonist poured petrol through the front door of her home in Smethwick and then set it alight.

Marzana Chowdhury, aged 37, heard the sound of running water and when she went to investigate she saw a pipe sticking through the letterbox.

As first she thought it was water being poured until her 15-year-old son Taher Ahmed said he could smell petrol.

She could see a man. who was wearing a year woolly hat with pink and orange stripes, through the glass in the front door but when she asked him what he was doing, he set fire to the door and walked away.

Mother-of-three Marzana who lives at the house in St George Drive with her husband and Jaguar Land Rover worker Abdul Hannan said: "I saw the pipe coming through the letterbox and then this clear liquid which I thought was water.

"My son told me it was petrol. I could see a man so I called out to him ' what are you doing? what is the problem?' and I said I was going to call the police.

Police have been talking to people in the area to see if anyone saw anything at the time of the attack. They are are appealing for witnesses to get in touch and have issued a description of the man seen running away from the house at 2pm on Thursday.

The man is described as being black, around 5ft 8ins tall, of medium build.

Detective Adam Austin can be contacted on 101.

Public invite to Trust AGM

MEMBERS of the public in Sandwell will have the chance to quiz health bosses at the annual general meeting of Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust.

Richard Samuda, chairman of the trust which runs will welcome patients, visitors and staff to the meeting on September 25. He will be joined by fellow trust board members as they host a Question Time-style session.

It starts at 6.30pm in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre, City Hospital, Dudley Road, B18 7QH. Call 0121 5074871 for details.

Historical photos of Tipton to go on display

Mayor of Sandwell Derek Rowley who will open the display

AN exhibition of historical photographs which charts a 20-year span of Tipton history is set to go on display.

Mayor of Sandwell Councillor Derek Rowley is unveiling it tomorrow, Friday, called Portraits Of Tipton, and it will be open until September 27.

The display is part of the Unseen Sandwell project, which is preserving and sharing the contents of the Jubilee Arts Archive from 1974 to 1994.

The exhibition, at Tipton Library, will include an audio-visual installation from artist and film-maker Geoff Broadway, which reflects people's thoughts and recollections of the town. Visitors can also taking in their old photographs of Tipton to share with the archive project.

Treasures

Robert Hazel, from Tipton Library, said: "This is a great opportunity to share our thoughts on what has changed in the area, and value what is at its heart by rediscovering these hidden treasures of yesteryear.

"We are hoping to reunite some faces from the past with their photos of the past.

"Our local history group have been very excited to be part of this project."

Those behind the Jubilee Arts Archive preservation project have been returning to the original locations in the borough and working with groups to explore and interpret the material, collecting oral histories, personal snapshots and memorabilia.

Using this material they are creating a bespoke website which will contain the images, film materials, audio and oral histories produced, so that the archive can be shared by current and future generations.

Astle legacy may be new device to spot concussion

SCIENTISTS are developing a pitch-side breathalyser that can show if a footballer or rugby player is suffering from concussion.

In a move that could prevent other footballers suffering the fate of West Bromwich Albion legend Jeff Astle, the trial could pave the way to making such a device available to professional and amateur clubs. Astle died from brain trauma at the age of 59.

He was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's and as a player, was renowned for his prowess as an expert header of the ball. The aim is to detect chemicals in the breath shown to be associated with concussion after a blow to the head.

The potentially serious condition is often missed.

Jeff Astle, who is still known as 'The King' among Albion fans, died from brain trauma at the age of 59 after being diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. He was famous for his heading ability.

Header expert – Jeff Astle

Relentless

A post mortem found that large areas of his brain had been irreversibly destroyed.

His daughter, Claire Astle, said: "Dad was probably the finest header of the ball ever in the game.

Ten months after he died we attended the coroner's court and the pathologist described how badly damaged dad's brain was.

He said there was considerable trauma, similar to the brain of a boxer. We can't prove it, but I would suggest that dad was one of the very few people who as a lead goalscorer in the first division scored more goals with his head than his feet.

"What people have to remember is that it's not just about the 90 minutes playing football on a Saturday. Dad's former team-mates said that in training it was relentless. They played to dad's strengths and the ball was hit over for him to head continually."

Evidence suggests that repeated blows to the head especially can cause serious damage, resulting in the dementia-like symptoms seen in 'punch drunk' boxers.

A controversial psychological concussion test that allows a player to return to the game within a few minutes of being given the 'all clear' has been strongly criticised.

Speaking at the British Science Festival, Professor Tony Belli, from the University of Birmingham, said chemicals associated with concussion can be detected in gases, raising the possibility of a breath test.

"It would and take about five or 10 minutes to use," he added.

New era for centre as park's museum

Heritage centre chairman Mary Lee, with one of the museum's first exhibits – the Mayor's Cup

IT started off as a derelict hut – but the Smethwick Heritage Centre is about to embark on a new era.

The centre is celebrating its 10th anniversary this weekend but is using the milestone as a launchpad for a new outlook.

The hut was rescued by heritage centre founder David Bryant, who wanted to celebrate the industrial heritage of Smethwick. After holding meetings in his living room, he eventually found the former park warden's hut in Victoria Park as the perfect place to celebrate the history of the area. And as the centre embarks on a new era, with the name set to be changed to Smethwick's Museum in the Park, Mr Bryant's role in the creation of the museum will not be forgotten.

Charlie Millward, a member of the Smethwick Heritage Centre Trust, said: "We are naming an exhibition room after David. Unfortunately, he died three years ago but we wanted to do something to remember his work.

"He held meetings of the trust in his living room with his wife before more people came forward and then he moved into the derelict hut. He was awarded an MBE for that."

The mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Derek Rowley, will be on hand to open the celebrations, which will involve a number of exhibitions and activities. Mr Millward added: "We are having two performances from the Brandhall Community Choir, and lot of displays and exhibitions." The event runs from 11am to 4pm. For more information, visit www.smethwick.org.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Old police station to become homes

A FORMER police station will be turned into housing after a planning application was given the go-ahead.

The station in Perry Hill Road in Oldbury closed last year as part of cost-cutting plans by West Midlands Police. Sandwell Council this week approved a proposal by Haz Iqbal to convert the station into two semi-detached homes.

The approval was given despite concerns raised by nearby residents over parking. The former station had been used for residential housing before it opened in 1998.

1,700 beer cans seized by police

POLICE seized more than 1,700 cans of beer discovered in a van in Blackheath. Officers stopped the van on Cakemore Road. Among the haul were stacks of crates of Skol, Red Stripe, Holsten and Carling.

The total retail retail value of the beer is believed to be around £1,680. A police spokesman said that the driver, aged 48, was voluntarily interviewed after he was stopped just before 10.30am on Thursday.

Road closed for work on pipes

A ROAD has been closed to traffic as part of work to revamp gas mains.

Trinity Street in Cradley Heath will be shut until tomorrow, Friday. It is closed between Haden Road and Halesowen Road.

Traffic will be diverted via Halesowen Road, which is temporarily one-way, Reddal Hill Road, and Lawrence Lane. National Grid is currently replacing outdated pipes.

Police to host public meeting

POLICE in Wednesbury will host a public meeting on September 22.

It will start at 5.30pm and take place at The Bungalow, Brickhouse Lane, Hill Top.

Residents will be able to speak to officers about any concerns they have and also make suggestions for any improvements they would like to see.

Museum history

THERE will be an illustrated talk on the history of the Black Country Museum from David Baker in Kingswinford Library, Market Street, on October 8 at 2.30pm. Admission to the talk will be £3.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

IT'S too late now but, with hindsight, the campaign to keep the UK together should have played the Celt card and appealed to the Scots' better nature and kinship with the people of Wales. Imagine the impact of a series of short TV commercials with much-loved Welsh celebrities pleading tearfully: "Please, please don't leave us alone with the English."

MORE curious paint names. We are about to redecorate the front room and have narrowed the choice of emulsion down to Churlish Green, Dimpse, Mole's Breath, Archive, Midriff or Placenta. All but two of these are genuine.

I'M off to France next week on a pilgrimage to Cambrai, Arras, Agincourt and various other battlefields. It's a coach trip, arguably the finest mode of travel ever invented. I love the sheer freedom from responsibility. You just turn up, load your case and let some jovial driver take you there, bring you back and deliver you to all points in between. Plus, you can admire the French countryside with a glass of plonk. Parfait. This year marks the centenary of the charabanc. I hope someone is celebrating it.

IRRITATED by the expression "as useless as a chocolate teapot," boffins at Nestle have created one which lasted long enough to brew a cuppa. Well done, all. Now, what about the ashtray for a motorcycle?

WATCHING Peter Capaldi losing his temper as Doctor Who is like watching Lewis Hamilton racing without changing up from first gear. To see Capaldi at his monstrous best, go to YouTube and find the White House scene from the movie In The Loop when his character Malcolm Tucker takes offence at being briefed by an aide who looks about 14. Still terrifying after all these years.

VIVIAN Boyack and Alice Dubes, a lesbian couple in their 90s have just got married in Iowa, having been together since 1942. The preacher remarked at the ceremony: "This is a celebration of something that should have happened a very long time ago." Amen to that. It is only fair that couples like Vivian and Alice can enjoy proper civic and legal rights. But what about those same-sex pairs, like elderly brothers and sisters, who live together as life partners for companionship but are not gay? In England gay couples now have the choice of a civil partnership or marriage. Non-gay couples do not. It seems unfair that issues such as inheritance tax and pension transfer should depend on what people get up to under the sheets.

CHURCH authorities announce that the reburial of Richard III next March will focus on "dignity and honour." Which is only fair. Richard ended his days in a muddy melee at Bosworth and lay buried under a car park in Leicester. Second time round he'll have a proper ceremony, a proper grave and a proper mode of conveyance. A hearse, a hearse . . . .

WHO decides on the names of birds? We encountered a brilliant yellow bird down by the stream on the farm where we have lived for the past 30 years. I have never seen a bird quite so yellow. If it found itself in an aviary full of yellowhammers and canaries, people would inquire: "What's that yellow bird over there?" Yet for all its striking, sunshiny yellowness, the yellow bird turns out to be a grey wagtail. Whatever its proper name, this is the first time we've ever seen one around Chateau Rhodes. Times are changing. Species are on the move. Those big green parakeets cannot be far behind. Even the RSPB website admits: "The grey wagtail is more colourful than its name suggests." So give it another name, eh?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Council hits out over benefits row

A FINANCE boss in Sandwell has launched a stinging attack on other councils for 'dumping' poor and vulnerable people in the borough.

Councillor Steve Eling has hit out at neighbouring Dudley Council as well as London boroughs after being left counting the cost of a High Court ruling that judged its scheme to clamp down on 'benefits tourism' as illegal.

Sandwell Council implemented a two-year residency requirement on anyone wanting reductions to their council tax bills, after the Government cut council tax benefit. But the move was ruled to be illegal and discriminatory by a High Court judge.

The verdict left Sandwell with a £40,000 legal bill and forced it to go back to the drawing board on its scheme to help people with their council tax bills. As part of the judgment it was revealed Dudley Council had been temporarily housing 10 vulnerable women in a hostel in Blackheath, but was forced to pay £2,604.77 to Sandwell in council tax as the women could not get a reduction in their bills due to the residency rule.

But following the judgment Sandwell Council may now have to offer reductions to such people, which they have previously said could mean a rise in bills for other residents.

Councillor Steve Eling said: "We asked Dudley Council to tell the court that we had required them to carry out their duties in relation to these women, including meeting costs. But they refused to tell the court what happened. Had Dudley Council told the court about this then the outcome of the case might have been very different."

Inspirational Jodie on mission to help others

AT the age of 14 Jodie Millard should spend her life thinking about things like school work or her favourite bands.

But the brave teen has already had to face more than most would in a lifetime. After a trampolining accident while at school the youngster was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a rare cancer of the bone.

Following a bout of chemotherapy doctors eventually decided that she would have to have her right leg amputated, and she had her operation on August 14.

But rather than let all of this get on top of her, Jodie is fighting the disease and has also decided to campaign for those affected by cancer by setting up her own charity.

The Jodie Lou Foundation aims to raise cash to help children who have needed to have limbs amputated due to cancer, and is hoping it can achieve charitable status soon.

With the money raised, Jodie will be the first recipient of state-of-the-art prosthetics that are currently not available to children on the NHS, and in the future she wants to see her organisation do the same for other kids.

The George Salter Academy pupil, from Dunkirk Avenue, West Bromwich, said she was determined to help others who are in her situation.

She said: "When I found out I had cancer I obviously broke down, but as soon as I got the emotional part over I just had to think positive, because there's nothing else I can do to stop it from happening.

"I think the foundation is great because if another person's in my situation, they will want the best leg or limb possible, so this will help families that are not able.

"I think it would be great to have what all the soldiers are having, I think children should have the same. As soon as we have a charity number we can set a proper charity up, and try to advertise our foundation to make it more popular."

Jodie, with her parents

Bone cancers are rare with only about 530 new cases each year in the UK. There are several different types of bone cancer. Osteosarcoma is one of the most common types and usually develops in growing bones. Although it can occur at any age, it's most commonly found in teenagers and young adults. Any bone in the body can be affected, but the most common sites are the arms or legs, particularly around the knee joint.

Her mother Leasa , aged 41, said she was proud of her daughter: "Any other 14-year-old I believe would be thinking their life was over, but Jodie has channelled that negative and turned it into a positive.

People can keep up to date with Jodie via social media. Anyone wanting to find out more can search The Jodie Lou Foundation on Facebook, or see @thejodieloufou1 on Twitter.

Albion legends at fundraiser

Brendon Batson, landlady Carol Fleet, and Cyrille Regis at the Horse and Jockey

TWO football legends who will be immortalised in the West Bromwich Albion Celebration statue were the star attraction at a fundraising event. More than 50 fans flocked to the Horse and Jockey pub in Wednesbury to meet former players Cyrille Regis and Brendon Batson.

The planned 10ft bronze celebration statue, which will cost around £220,000, features both Regis and Batson as well as Laurie Cunningham, who were among the first prominent black football players in the country in the 1970s. Chairman of West Bromwich Albion Supporters' Trust, John Homer, said: "The event was very well attended and everybody had a great night.

Landlady of the pub Carol Fleet said: "I sold around 50 or 60 tickets, but I would have loved to have had more. I heard about the event and even before I moved into the premises here I knew I wanted to do something to support as it is a very good cause."

Batson, Regis and Cunningham are credited with helping to break down racism in the game and became affectionately known as The Three Degrees. Cunningham left the Baggies to play for Real Madrid but died in a car crash aged just 33 in 1991.

Numbers are up as race sets a record

MORE than 600 runners have already signed up for a Black Country road run – with organisers hoping to break records for the turnout and the amount raised for charity.

Preparations are gathering pace for this Sunday's Black Country Road Run taking place in Halesowen with people still signing up in their droves ahead of race day. The fun run and 10k road race were re-branded last year in a bid to attract more runners with around 600 taking part in the event around the streets of the town.

But organisers say they look set to beat last year's total having drafted in more support from nearby groups and organisations to help stage the event. About a dozen students from Halesowen College's Public Services course will be among those marshalling events starting from 9.30am on the day.

This year legendary fundraiser 'Blind' Dave Heeley, from West Bromwich, is also joining the throngs on the start line raising money for JDRF, a national charity which is trying to find a cure for Type 1 Diabetes.

Runners are asked to mass on Somers Square in the town centre for 8.45am.

New firm in elite chamber

THE Black Country Chamber of Commerce has welcomed a new recruit to its Platinum Group, which works to share good ideas.

Doosan Babcock specialises in the construction and upgrade services to the thermal power, nuclear, oil, gas, petrochemical and process sector.

Dave Whitehouse, operations manager at Doosan Babcock's Tipton site, said: "From the warm welcome and benefits gained during our early engagement, we are confident that our collaboration will support our development."

Beer festival

A WILLENHALL pub is holding a four-day beer festival. The Duke of Cambridge in Coltham Road, which is part of micro-brewery Black Country Ales' pubs, is holding the event from October 16 to 19. It was runner-up in 2012's Walsall pub of the year contest.

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New PCC Jamieson in vow on elections

New PCC, David Jamieson

THE new West Midland Police and Crime Commissioner has called for further elections like the one in which he was selected to be outlawed.

David Jamieson is urging the Home Office to change the rules so that future polls for the post are not held at such short notice in the midst of the summer holidays.

The August 21 election in which he was chosen cost £3.7 million to stage – almost £20 for each of the 10 per cent of the voters that bothered to turn out.

He said: "It was not very sensible to hold an election costing that much in the middle of August and we have got to learn from what happened. I want the legislation revised and will be making representations to the Home Office in the hope that the necessary changes can be in place by the next Police and Crime Commissioner elections in 2016."

Solihull-born former Labour Transport Minister Mr Jamieson, an MP for Plymouth Devonport for 13 years until 2005, continued: "The present Government created this legislation. It was botched from the start."

Open day at new centre

AN open day will be held at a newly-built church community centre later this month following its £1.3 million expansion.

Aldridge Parish Church, at The Green, will hold the open day at its new community rooms on Saturday, between 10am and 4pm.

The new centre, which recently opened its doors to community groups, has a huge multi-coloured glass frontage, central foyer area, cafe, offices, toilets, kitchen, children's room and meeting rooms. Aldridge building contractor Shaylor started work last September and finished just weeks ago.

Council chiefs scrutinise Rotherham report

CHILD protection bosses across the Black Country have revealed they are poring over the report into the Rotherham child sex scandal in a bid to see what lessons they can learn.

The shocking report found at least 1,400 children were abused in the South Yorkshire town over the 16-year period from 1997 to 2013.

The inquiry led to a Home Affairs Select Committee accusing police of covering up the extent of a child sexual exploitation network, while Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council also came under fire for its handling of the abuse.

Since the report was issued at the end of last month, child safeguarding teams at local authorities in the Black Country and Staffordshire have been examining its findings to ensure they are doing all they can to minimise the risks to children.

Councillor Roger Lawrence, Leader of Wolverhampton City Council, said: "Our children's safeguarding team is currently reviewing the findings from the report and we are determined to learn any lessons we can from these shocking cases.

"Awareness of safeguarding issues is a key requirement for many frontline employees such as social workers and licensing officers, and we are continuing to roll out awareness training to other employees."The child's safety and welfare is always our top priority."

Councillor Barbara Cassidy, boss of children's services at Walsall Council, said the authority's safeguarding children board met on the day the report was published.

Minimising

She said: "The independent chair asked the board's Child Sexual Exploitation Committee to examine the report in detail and satisfy itself, and the board, that we are doing all we can in Walsall to identify and combat these awful activities.

"There are always lessons that we can and will learn from such cases. The council will be working closely with the local safeguarding children board to examine its own practice in light of the report to make sure its practice is as robust as possible in identifying, intervening and minimising the risk of child sexual exploitation in Walsall and across our region."

Earlier this year Sandwell Council, along with the other Black Country authorities, joined forces with West Midlands Police as part of the See Me, Hear Me campaign.

Black Country firms vying for £10bn HS2 contracts

EIGHTY-FOUR companies from the West Midlands are set to bid for £10 billion worth of contracts to build the HS2.

Representing more than 150,000 workers, the firms include nine from Staffordshire, four from Walsall, three from Dudley, two from Wolverhampton, and one from Sandwell. Business leaders are set to meet with bosses of the high speed rail project.

Two conferences are being held in London and Manchester in October as the £50 bn scheme moves closer towards construction with a planned start in 2017.

The firms range from those employing almost 5,000 people to some employing less than 10 – and supply a wide range of products, from construction and design to information and communications services.

HS2 will be Europe's biggest construction project, linking Manchester and Leeds to London via Birmingham and slashing journey times. It is estimated HS2 will support in excess of 100,000 jobs nationwide.

HS2 Chief Executive, Simon Kirby said: "Building HS2 is a massive, long-term project; one that offers huge opportunity for large and small companies right across the country.

"To construct it; and then bring it to life will require a vast range of skills and expertise, some of which we have and some we'll need to develop. Put simply, HS2 is a huge transport, investment and economic opportunity.

"And to deliver a project of HS2's scale and complexity we are committed to working with companies who share our collaborative values. So, I am extremely pleased that so many firms have already shown an interest in helping to deliver HS2."

Trusts are among the top in NHS

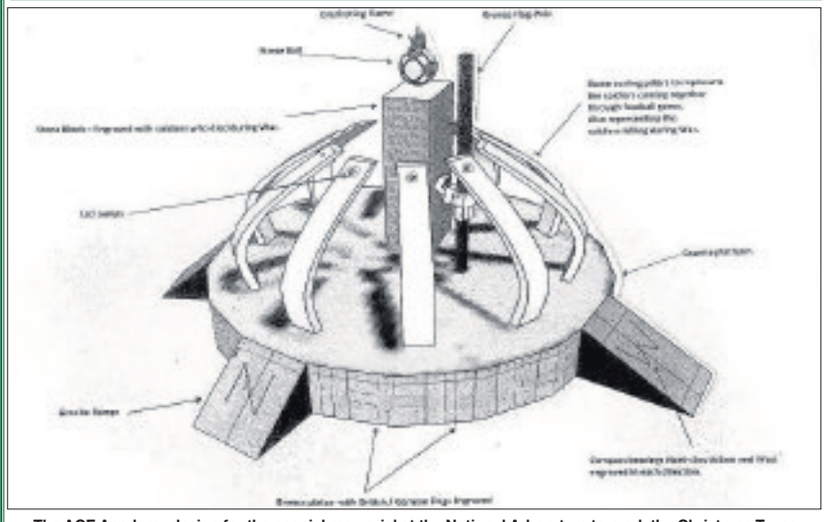
HEALTH trusts in the Black Country have been named among the top 100 employers in the NHS.

The accolade has been awarded to three organisations in the area after all NHS trusts were rated following results of their staff engagement and satisfaction surveys.

Appearing in the top 100 are Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, which runs services at Bloxwich Hospital in Walsall and Bushey Fields Hospital in Dudley among others.

As part of its praise for Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, the Health Service Journal, which published the list, said: "Its highly motivated staff are well trained and suffer fewer incidences of discrimination, as well as fewer pressures at work."

Students on the ball for truce memorials



The ACE Academy design for the special memorial at the National Arboretum to mark the Christmas Truce

STUDENTS at three schools in the Black Country and Staffordshire could soon see their designs erected at the National Memorial Arboretum.

The school pupils have been shortlisted in the final of a national competition to design a new statue at the arboretum in Alrewas. The new permanent memorial will pay tribute to the football matches played along the Western Front during the Christmas Truce in December 1914.

Students from ACE Academy in Tipton, Queen Mary's Grammar School in Walsall and Kingsmead School in Hednesford have seen their designs included on a final shortlist of 34 schools UK-wide. The winner will be announced later this month, and will be chosen by The Duke of Cambridge and Arsenal forward Theo Walcott. Arsenal fan Omar Haque, 13 and from Tipton, is one of those behind the ACE Academy entry, and is excited at the idea that Theo Walcott will be taking a look at their design.

Their drawing shows a stone plinth, engraved with the names of soldiers, carrying a stone ball with an everlasting flame. The base would feature bronze plates with British and German flags engraved.

Queen Mary's pupils with their design

NEWS IN BRIEF

Toy shop race event is a hit

WANNABE Lewis Hamiltons and Stigs took part in a cart driving challenge at a Walsall toy store.

Youngsters took to the wheel on a specially designed racing Crazy Cart track and obstacle course to demonstrate their talent. The event was held at the town's Smyths Toys Superstores, at Crown Wharf Shopping Park, in Wolverhampton Street as part of a national tour.

All children who took part have been entered in a competition to win a cart worth £400 of their own and a trophy.

Extra date for UB40 stars' tour

UB40 founder members Ali Campbell, Terence 'Astro' Wilson and Mickey Virtue have added an extra date to their UK tour.

The band, now styled as UB40: Ali, Astro, Mickey after a split with the original UB40, will now be performing at Birmingham's National Indoor Arena on April 17.

They will be supported for next year's concert by acid jazz band Brand New Heavies.

Tickets are priced £32.50.

Nice one, Cyrille set for fundraiser

FORMER Albion, Wolves and Villa star Cyrille Regis is at a charity fundraiser.

The ex-England international is due at the Pelsall Villa Colts sportsman evening, at Pelsall Cricket and Sports Club on September 26, in aid of its Gambia Appeal Fund.

Tickets are £20 each and includes a fish and chip supper. To book a place call 07887 976964 or 07712 405005.

Boxers get ready for sporting night

YOUNG boxers will be packing a punch during a sporting dinner show this autumn. It takes place at Walsall FC, Bescot Crescent, on October 9 with a minimum of 10 bouts.

The amateur boxing event will feature Pleck Boxing Club and tickets are £32 including a three-course meal. For details call 01922 651418.

Bond's drink

A BLACK Country brewery has produced another of its series of beers based on movies. Holden's Brewery's The Man With the Holden Gun, based on the 1974 James Bond film, is a 4.8 per cent ale.

IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

AS we speak I am contemplating taking a hammer to my mobile phone and smashing it to pieces. A primitive form of repair, I concede but yet again it has decided to wake me an hour earlier than I intended by deciding to do a spot of spontaneous photography.

Now you might well be asking why I simply don't switch the thing off for the night. But unfortunately, it doesn't respond terribly well to that, either. It usually sulks for about half an hour in the morning, locks itself up at inopportune moments, makes videos of me shouting at it, and fails to receive calls or text messages.

Four or five attempts to switch the thing on and off, a bit of light cursing, and it's usually right as rain. But to be honest, I can do without the hassle first thing in the morning.

I suppose I shouldn't really complain too much. I bought the thing about five years ago, which seems to be the shelf life of modern technology, and I only paid £30 for it, so I suppose I have got my money's worth. And today it did wait until dawn before it decided to disturb my sleep. On previous occasions it has decided to wake me at two or three in the morning, lighting up the room and making a not particularly pleasant record of my snoring.

Nevertheless, I suppose it is time to get a new one, but if I'm honest I will be a little sad to see the back of my battered pay-as-you-go Nokia. Partly, because I will have to learn how to operate a new phone, and yet I still haven't really got to grips with the old one. I've had the thing half a decade, and I still don't know what 'connectivity' or 'configurations' actually mean. And what will actually happen if I tinker with these buttons? Some things are best left alone.

But the real reason why I want to stick with my trusty Nokia as long as possible comes in the form of the new iPhone 6 , which comes out on Friday.

Now I suspect the majority of you know as little about this as I do, but apparently it is a little bigger than the iPhone 5, and will cost £549. And people have been camping out in London's Regent's Park just to be first in the queue.

How tragic is that? People spending a week living in a tent just so they can pay more than a monkey for a telephone. Which does pretty much the same thing as my thirty-quid Nokia.

Now there are no shortage of people who laugh at my phone. They tell me it is outdated, unreliable, and about as cool as Jeremy Clarkson. And of course, they're totally right.

But you know what? I own it. Whereas, with all the nerdy types coveting the new iPhone 6 and tying themselves up with long and expensive contracts, it is the phone that owns them.

A picture of the double decker bus before restoration

Corporation bus 174 seen in action back in the 1950s

The buses on their way from Dudley to West Bromwich

It's just the ticket for a return to past

JONATHAN PRITCHARD marks the return of two buses which have been restored to their past glory

THEY were last seen on the roads of Sandwell more than 40 years ago – but these two vintage buses have taken to the streets again.

The two 1952 Daimler buses retraced some of their steps as part of a celebration for the 100 year anniversary of the West Bromwich Corporation.

The Corporation was granted the power to start operating motor buses in 1913 with the first buses starting in 1914, and expanded into the surrounding areas until it was swallowed up by West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive.

They left the Black Country Living Museum at 10.15am last Wednesday before driving around the streets of Wednesbury and Dudley, to return back to the museum in the afternoon.

Circular

The buses have been lovingly restored over a number of years, and have cost thousands of pounds to get them back into the condition they were in when they first started their routes around the Black Country.

The single-decker Daimler CVG5 had a seven-litre engine and has 38 seats, and ran the circular 28 route, which would have travelled around the areas of Hateley Heath, Hill Top, and West Bromwich town centre.

Meanwhile, the double-decker CVG6 has 56 seats and a nine-litre engine, and travelled along the Birmingham to Dudley route, via West Bromwich and Wednesbury.

Both the vehicles entered service on March 1, 1952, with the CVG5 being used until July 1967 and the double-decker until 1974.

The two buses park up at the Black Country Living Museum, with from left, Ian Rhydderch, from Pelsall, Mark Sherwood, from Cradley Heath, Pete Smith, from Wednesbury, Daniel Sherwood, from Cradley Heath, Graham Harper, from West Bromwich, Terry Carter, from Heath Hayes, Dave Wootton, from Hednesford and Gordon Ibbotson, from Great Barr

Gordon Ibbotson, who has helped restore the CVG6, said: "It's absolutely fantastic to see them on the road.

"It's an honour and a privilege to have been involved in it.

"It has been eight years since we started out and I guess you could say it has been a labour of love."

It cost between £40,000 and £50,000 to restore the bus, including £5,000 spent on the Gardner 6LW engine.

The double-decker, known as Bus 174 due to its licence plate, was donated to Dudley Libraries in 1969 and stored in the former Midland Red garage in Wolverhampton.

In the early years of the museum it was used to collect items – including Emile Doo's chemist from Netherton which now stands proudly on the museum's Canal Street.

By 1980 bus GEA 174 had moved permanently to the museum but as a kit of parts after a series of unsuccessful restoration attempts.

Mr Ibbotson added: "When we got the bus is was basically just a shell, we have had to lay new flooring, make new panelling and put in new seats.

"But we've restored it to the way it was, it looks exactly the same now.

" I was a body maker in my former career so that has helped."

The project was part-funded by former member of the CVG6 group Arthur Whitehouse, who left a bequeath to the group in his will when he died in 2010.

The bus was finally completed late last year.

The group who look after the CVG5, called the 156 Bus group after the vehicles registration plate, have owned the bus since it was taken off the road in 1967.

Graham Harper, who is part of the 156 Bus Group, said: "I've been involved in this group ever since we got the car in 1967, so it's good to see all the hard work that has gone into the car paying off.

Rallies

"The bus was declared off road for 27 years and then we restored it and it passed its MOT in November 2010.

"Since then we have taken it on rallies and things like that, it's always good to go for a ride in it.

"We've had a few people waving at us and looking at the bus as it goes down the street, and a few people even put their hands up at a bus stop wanting to get on.

"All the money that has gone into the restoration of it has come out of our own pockets so I couldn't really put a figure on how much it has cost."

Mr Harper, a former bus driver himself, said the group bought the bus as soon as it was no longer being used, so they could preserve it.

Visitors to the museum were able to ride in the two vintage buses last Saturday as they took over the duties of the usual buses for one day only.

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

THE National Health Service will be one of the main battlegrounds for the next election and the West Midlands is going to see some of the fiercest fights.

The scandal of Stafford Hospital has spread out to others, with more patients being taken to Wolverhampton and Walsall for care. The brand of Stafford has been tainted.

Politicians are using it as a stick to beat each other with. The Tories hold it up as an example of why Labour is no longer fit to oversee its own greatest achievement, the NHS itself, while Labour points to the downgrade of Stafford as an example of how the Tories can't be trusted with it.

Stafford itself is a marginal constituency. Conservative Jeremy Lefroy has been campaigning as hard as anyone could for the hospital, but could well be punished if his pleas are falling on deaf ears with his own party.

His Labour opponent Kate Godfrey has already told him to stand down and force a by-election to put Stafford at the top of the agenda. Amid the typical red v blue row, an alternative emerges.

Karen Howells, a founding member of the Support Stafford Hospital campaign, which has been camped out on the lawn of the site to fight the planned downgrade, is standing for the National Health Action party.

It might well be a one-issue party, but in Stafford it also happens that its one issue is the biggest one.

And it would be foolish to write the party off as a wasted vote. One of its founders is Dr Richard Taylor, who was elected as an independent in Wyre Forest not once but twice.

Neither Labour nor the Conservatives can afford to write Stafford off. There is still little between them in the opinion polls and the key marginals that changed hands in 2010 are the ones that will determine who gets to run the country from 2015.

Leave it to the voting public to decide how much MPs get paid and the answer would probably be 'nothing'.

So they were all prepared for grumbling over the recommended hike in their pay. Simply put, they don't deserve it at a time of austerity, particularly when other public servants have endured a pay freeze.

The problem is they didn't decide that they should get it. That was the verdict of the independent body set up to regulate their pay because so many of them couldn't be trusted not to treat the taxpayer like their own personal piggy bank.

The Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority was created to stop them deciding what they should get. And now it's come to a decision they're being told to intervene and overrule it, which sort of defeats the whole object.

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Celebrates gets brilliant support

THANK you to their continued support, from local companies, helping Wednesbury Celebrates continue their fantastic work at Wednesbury Town Hall.

We now get over 200 pensioners to our afternoon fish and chips. The great acts we are attracting are second to none. But it would not be possible without the commitment of the superb volunteers, companies, like Vendaid who supply the cups, serviettes, etc, Warburtons always have got the bread ready for collection, O'Connells fruiters, supplying flowers when required, Steve the butchers, Lower High Street –we are so lucky.

A huge thank you must go to the companies who sponsor the shows, too many to mention, they get their name on the tickets. We also do over 50's keep fit twice a week, line dancing, over 50's dance, Zumba, shows once or twice a month, look out for the big names, the website is www.wednesburycelebrates.org.uk. There is great community spirit in Wednesbury.

CLLRS ELAINE COSTIGAN and OLWEN JONES, Wednesbury

Outlining dangers to young

I AM grateful that M Addison of Wolverhampton replied in the manner he did in the issue of the 29th. This has clearly opened a very sensitive debate about how we teach our youngsters to approach their lives as they grow older.

At the age of 15 I went into a factory making electrical components bound up in asbestos. I was quickly affected, the dust was prolific and my nasals were quickly eroded.

Now at 67, I continue to worry about the legacy of someone in that factory not telling me of the risks of getting cancer from that asbestos.

I don't agree that Jeff Astle would have known about the risks by heading a wet, heavy blown up bladder. But now we know it is important to tell us, save you be sued.

My grandson is getting bolder with the ball, he still flinches as it comes towards him as I still flinch when it comes towards me. If he still flinches at my age I will know that I have done my job.

J WALTON, Walsall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
Sandwell.chronicle
@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Rotherham scandal cause is uncovered

EIGHTEEN months ago, Rotherham sacked a foster parent for being in UKIP, which was perceived as racist. It now transpires that 1,400 children have been abused by those of a particular ethnicity.

Many of the abused were white, which might be construed as racist by the attackers. Rotherham's response was to stand idly by and do nothing. The present Police Commissioner, has been told by Labour to resign or be suspended. This is interesting; they seem less worried about what he had done or not done, than with the 'reputation' of the party.

It becomes clearer by the day, why Jimmy Savile got away with it for 60 years.

R W WHITE
West Bromwich

On song for a new tune

WHILE concurring with P Cole's views on the choice of 'Jerusalem' for England's anthem at the Commonwealth Games, his suggested alternatives leave something to be desired. 'There'll always be an England', refers to the Empire. It also has military connotations.

Similarly, the lyric of 'Land of Hope and Glory' contains the words, 'Wider still and wider shall thy bounds be set', portraying us as an invading force.

'Rose of England' is much more appropriate.

A V HARRISON, Walsall

School hols far too long

HOW many parents like myself will have pulled out half their hair by the time the new school year had begun? The summer holidays are nearly seven weeks in some cases, and amazingly after such a long break the first day back for many was a teacher training day.

Surely in the modern world we could break up this excessively long break into sections, maybe a month would be appropriate, followed by allowing a further two breaks of a week later in the year when it's icy cold and dark for the kids.

No-one outside of education, besides politicians and footballers, have seven week's holidays in one lump each and every year.

S HARRISON
West Bromwich

Half-baked obsession

IN further proof that the world really has flipped on its axis, Newsnight devoted a large slot of its in-depth inquiry of the state of the planet, to the latest hot topic, namely the controversy surrounding Great British Bake Off contestant Iain Watters and his Baked Alaska.

The whole thing seems to have an almighty 'so what?' element about it. Meanwhile, in Palestine, Ukraine, Iraq, Libya, Syria… What about the state of the world, the terrible deprivations suffered by over half the world's population? Does it really matter if a cake goes awry or some chap runs screaming from the studio?

S STROUD
Wednesbury

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bridge honour for ex-councillor

A SANDWELL Alderman who died last year has had a walkway in Great Bridge renamed in his honour.

The Haines Walkway, which links Great Bridge to Sheepwash Country Park, was officially renamed The Fred Perry Walkway exactly a year after his death.

Alderman Perry served as Labour ward member for Great Bridge on Sandwell Council for more than 14 years and was presented with the honorary title of Alderman in 2008.

He was awarded an MBE in the 2010 New Year's Honours list for his work to improve the lives of people in Great Bridge. He died after a long illness on September 16, last year, aged 87. Sandwell Mayor Councillor Derek Rowley joined Mr Perry's widow Irene at the official renaming ceremony held on Tuesday at 11am.

Choir performs for local cause

A BLACK Country choir will be performing to help raise vital funds for a cerebral palsy charity.

Brandhall Community Choir will be appearing at Cerebral Palsy Midlands' centre in Harborne on Monday, performing pop, rock and musical numbers.

They are hoping to raise cash for the charity's work. Brandhall Community Choir's performance is taking place at 17 Victoria Road, Harborne, from 7pm to 8.30pm.

Tickets are £4 each, free for appointed carers. For details contact Adam Siviter on 0121 427 3182, or at adam@cpmids.org.uk

Family hits out at failings behind christina's death

'PREDICTABLE and preventable' is how the family of a 16-year-old girl stabbed to death on her way to school described the attack by a paranoid schizophrenic.

Relatives of Christina Edkins spoke out following a damning report which identified crucial failings by the police, prison service and NHS in failing to deal with the dangers posed by her attacker.

by Mark Andrews

Christina was stabbed in a random attack on a bus by Phillip Simelane, who had just been released from prison, while she was on her way to Leasowes High School in Halesowen, in March 2013.

The report byBirmingham CrossCity Clinical Commissioning Group said Christina's death could have been prevented were it not for 'missed opportunities' by the authorities.

Simelane, of Walsall, was sentenced to an indeterminate hospital order after pleading guilty to Christina's manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility at the age of 23, in October last year. He had a long history of mental illness, but had been released unsupervised from prison three months before the attack.

Christina's great-uncle Chris Melia welcomed the publication of the report by Dr Alison Reed, which made 51 recommendations calling for the improved sharing of mental health information between agencies including the NHS, the police and the prison service.

However, he said the family disagreed with Dr Reed's conclusion that nobody could have predicted the random attack on Christina, which took place on a bus in Hagley Road, Edgbaston.

"The report said that Christina's death was preventable but not predictable, but we believe it was also predictable, we believe that very strongly," he said. In a statement, Christina's family added: "The report clearly shows that long-term failings by members of the police, prison-service and medical staff effectively to deal with and treat Phillip Simelane during 11 years of a developing mental illness."

Mr Melia added: "There were lots of other people who said how gravely ill this chap was, but somehow they didn't seem to find it necessary to do anything."

Club rolls out the barrels for ale festival

Martin Mullany gets ready for the festival at the Tipton Conservative Club

MORE than 1,000 pints will be sunk by thirsty beer drinkers this weekend as part of a beer festival.

The Tipton Conservative Club is holding its second beer festival of the year as new owners look to put their stamp on the club.

Angela and Martin Mullany took over the club in December and are holding the beer festival to coincide with the annual Black Country Canal Festival, which is also taking place this weekend.

The beer festival will kick off on Friday evening and run straight through until Sunday night.

The club has nine-gallon firkins of 13 different real ales and two ciders to get through by the end of the weekend.

Mrs Mullany said: "This is the second festival we have held this year and we are hoping this one will be even more successful than the last.

"Hopefully, we can give everyone at the canal festival a place to go and get some food and a nice drink if they fancy a break from being on the canals.

"We've also been supported by Camra this time around.

"They have helped advertise it for us so we're hopeful we will be able to sell out of beer by the end of the week."

That will mean drinkers will have got through 1,080 pints in just three days.

For more information about the festival, contact the club on 0121 557 3426.

Pick the top park in green flags bid

ORGANISERS of the coveted Green Flag Award are urging people to come forward and vote online for their favourite parks.

The parks are listed in the online People's Choice Award, which gives the public the power to decide which one of the 1,482 Green Flag Award sites should be named Park of the Year.

Sandwell has 12 green spaces which were awarded Green Flags this year.

People can vote for one of Sandwell's Green Flag-awarded sites by visiting www.sandwell.gov.uk/greenflag and use the Vote for this Site button for the following sites: Barnford Park, or Barnford and Farm Road Allotments, Oldbury; Brunswick Park, or Dingley Road Allotments, Wednesbury; Haden Hill Park, Cradley Heath; Moorlands Allotments, Sandwell Valley Country Park, or Sandwell Valley Crematorium, West Bromwich; Tipton Cemetery; Victoria Park, Smethwick; and Warley Woods, Bearwood. Votes close at noon on September 30, and the winner of the 2014 People's Choice will be announced on October 16. Sandwell is the only area in the West Midlands to have volunteer-run allotment sites with Green Flags.

Last year Sandwell had two parks in the top 10 People's Award, they were Sandwell Valley and Warley Woods.

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Thugs on night out in brutal attack locked up

FOUR men have been locked up after a brutal attack in Walsall town centre which left their victim with a 'serious, life-changing head injury' and only a 10 per cent chance of survival.

Chas Finch, aged 20, Callum McManus, 19, Ryan Perry, 20, and Sam Wright, 20, appeared before Shrewsbury Crown Court.

The court heard how their victim, Jason Humpries, was punched, kicked and stamped on in Bradford Street in Walsall town centre on July 5 last year when the defendants were out to celebrate McManus' birthday.

The assault was said to have started after Finch passed comment on the jumpers being worn by Mr Humphries and a friend.

CCTV evidence shown to the court revealed the men walk past the victim and the friend before the attack in the early hours of the morning. The victim's friend later ran off leaving him surrounded by 'a group of young men' and later 'motionless' on the ground.

Survive

In a doctor's statement, it was revealed that only one in 10 victims survive the first two weeks following an attack of this nature.

The court heard how Mr Humphries victim still suffers with bad headaches and double vision in his left eye mood swings and has been left with a scar on his head. In a statement read to the court, he said: "I feel that my life has been taken away from me. I offered no threat to the people who assaulted me."

The court also heard the victim – who was described as the 'most inoffensive man' – was being cared for by his parents and had left his partner and children's home due to the effects of his injuries. Judge Robin Onions sentenced Perry, of Ash Road, Wednesbury, to three years and two months in custody for inflicting grievous bodily harm, with an additional four months for breaching a previous court order.

Wright, of Park Lane, Wednesbury, and McManus, of Richard Street, Darlaston, were handed three year sentences for the same offence, while Finch, Old Park Road, Wednesbury, was sentenced to 14 months for affray. Mr Kevin Saunders, defending McManus, said it was accepted that it was a 'pack dog, group attack'.

Callum McManus, whose birthday it was

Chas Finch, sentenced to 14 months

Three years and two months, Ryan Perry

Sam Wright, who also got three years

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Darren flags up his support for 'No' vote

IT'S a symbolic gesture to show solidarity to the thousands of Scots living in the Black Country – the Saltire is flying at the council house in Sandwell as the referendum for independence in Scotland takes place.

Council bosses say they hope Scotland today votes to keep the union with the rest of the United Kingdom.

They say many Scottish families living in the Black Country do not want to be separated from their fellow Scots. It comes as PM David Cameron, his deputy Nick Clegg and Ed Miliband made an impassioned plea for Scotland to stay in the union.

Labour leader Miliband called on people to fly the Scottish flag this week to show their support for Scotland, and many councils have answered his call. . Councillor Darren Cooper, leader of Sandwell Council, is supporting the No vote and wants the country to remain united.

The Saltire is flying alongside the Black Country Flag and the Union Jack outside the council house in Oldbury town square. Councillor Cooper said: "It goes back to our industrial heritage. The Black Country was built on the backs of working class people from all over the UK, including Scotland. We have around 1,000 people from Scotland living in Sandwell."

"I know it's a potentially divisive issue but for me we should stick together and stay together as a United Kingdom and continue the great success that we have. I know that some Scottish people are disenfranchised and disengaged with politics, and many have said to me that they are fed up of having a Tory government, but that's not going to be the case forever."

Councillor Roger Lawrence, Leader of Wolverhampton City Council, said: "We are flying the Scottish Saltire and the Union Flag together outside the Civic Centre to express our desire that the people of Scotland vote to keep the union with the rest of the United Kingdom."

Leader Councillor Darren Cooper with the Saltire at the council house

Service marks milestone

FAMILIES of children with disabilities from across the West Midlands gathered to mark a first anniversary of a project helping to provide respite for families.

Barnardo's Midlands Overnight Short Breaks service provides children with disabilities and their families, regular, planned overnight short breaks. Bosses say it gives youngsters the chance to enjoy time away from home, try new activities and make new friendships. A picnic to celebrate the services first year anniversary was held at Haden Hill Park, in Cradley Heath.

Many of the children or young people are mobile and healthy but have a learning disability or are on the autistic spectrum which means they may be excluded from some activities and need supervision.

Some children have a physical disability, and/or health needs which means they need additional help with their care. Anyone interested in finding out more is asked to call 0121 550 1222.

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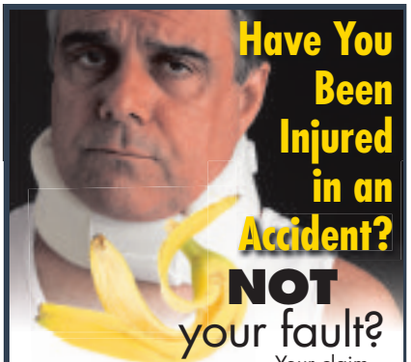

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Beacon hailed as best in the West Midlands

Beacon operations manager Simon Massey, barmaid Samantha Powell, left and assistant manager Kayleigh Millard

SEDGLEY'S Beacon Hotel has been hailed as the best pub in the West Midlands by real ale campaigners at Camra as it issues the latest copy of its Good Beer Guide.

The ale fan's bible also adds a string of new pubs to its lists across the Black Country, Staffordshire and Worcestershire. The White Lion in Sedgley, the re-opened Fountain in Walsall and the Hail to the Ale in Wolverhampton – opened barely 12 months ago – are all new entries in the latest Guide. And they underline the West Midland's continuing love affair with good, locally-brewed beer, as well as a fondness for good pubs.

But it is the Beacon Hotel, home of the Sarah Hughes brewery, that is considered the cream of the crop.

It is one of 16 pubs nationwide that will battle it out of the title of Camra's pub of the year in February.

The Guide is full of praise for the Sedgley pub. It says: "This hotel has sat virtually unchanged for decades. It is a Grade II listed building, with a nationally important historic pub interior, where time has stood still. The Beacon lives up to its name – it shines."

Public get invitation to AGM of NHS trust

MEMBERS of the public are invited to find out more about their hospitals by attending the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust.

Richard Samuda, Chairman of the Trust will welcome patients, visitors and staff to the meeting to be held on Thursday, September 25.

by Simon Stone

He will be joined by fellow Trust Board members as they host a 'Question Time' session where members of the audience can have their questions answered at the start of the event. This will be followed by presentations reflecting the Trust's last 12 months and a look forward to the future.

Dr Peter Davies, Consultant Diabetologist will be joined on stage by Trevor Fossey as they jointly present on the use of technology in medicine, with Trevor giving a patient's perspective to the amazing developments and opportunities offered by the rise of digital technology in healthcare.

The meeting will take place at 6.30pm in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre at City Hospital, Dudley Road, Birmingham, B18 7QH. Light refreshments will be available from 5.45pm, with an opportunity to browse an exhibition of stands on projects including the Midland Met new hospital and the Trust Charity.

All are welcome to the AGM, so for more details or to register your interest to attend please contact Rosie Fuller on 0121 507 4871 or by email rosie.fuller@nhs.net. Anyone unable to attend the event but who is interested in receiving a copy of any of our reports should contact Rosie.

All reports will be available on the Trust website – www.swbh.nhs.uk – with hard copies of the Annual Report, Quality Account and the Trust Charity Annual Report available at the meeting.

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The standing crowd have good view over the pitch

A packed Molineux with a view over Wolverhampton

Families turn up to watch the match at Molineux

A packed Molineux Alley as the fans queue to get in for the match in the 1950s

How Molineux grew into the golden giant

IT used to be known as a pleasure ground and has been the arena for plenty of happiness and every other emotion since.

MEMORY LANE

By Tim Nash

Molineux, Wolves' home for 125 years, has become one of the most iconic grounds in British football.

From humble beginnings when the club rented it for £50 in 1889, it has become an instantly recognisable name in sport and the spiritual home for thousands of Wolves fans.

From bans because of crowd trouble – in 1919-20 – a stand roof blowing down in a gale, and becoming an ammunitions dump during the Second World War, Molineux had its fair share of ups and downs in its first 65 years.

But its prestige as a marquee venue is reflected in it hosting nine FA Cup semi-finals and three full England internationals during that period. And its diversity is seen in its multiple use prior to Wolves moving in. Named after the Molineux family who took up residence there, by the 1860s the grounds boasted a bandstand, boating lake and an ice rink, and hosted galas, fetes and croquet, as well as cycling and athletics events.

In more recent decades, several non-sporting events have been held there, including fireworks displays, Jehovah's Witness conventions and even a Bon Jovi concert.

Jewel

But it's as Wolves' home that it is most synonymous. And if the club undoubtedly put Wolverhampton on the map, then Molineux became the jewel from which its most famous export – Wolves – shone.

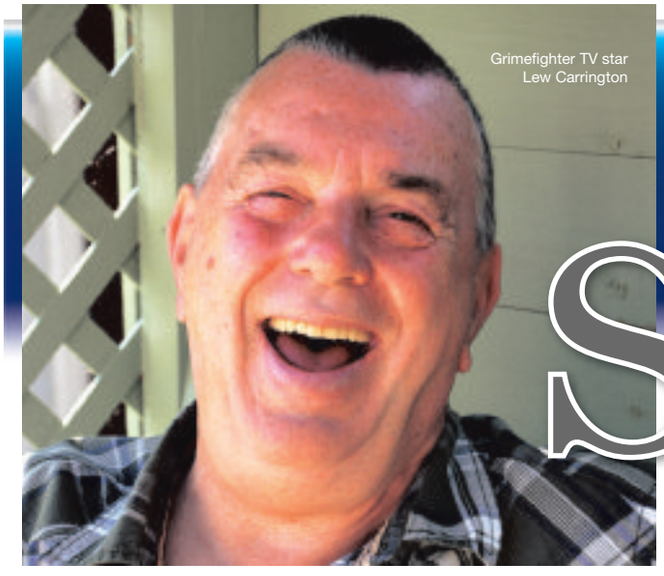
From the towering South Bank to the Molineux Street Stand and its much-loved eye-catching multi-span gabled roof, Molineux has always been distinctive. And as one of the first football grounds to erect floodlights in 1953, it was seen to be innovative.

Those themes were reflected on the pitch too. Through the experimental Major Frank Buckley in the pre-war years to the glory of the all-conquering Stan Cullis era, Molineux witnessed plenty of highlights in its first six-and-a-half decades. Wolves' first Football League title came in 1954, but later that year came Molineux's most famous match when the mighty Honved were beaten.

By the end of the 1930s when Wolves twice finished runners-up in the League, they were attracting crowds of 50,000 plus and a record attendance of 61,315 for the visit of Liverpool in the FA Cup fifth round in 1939.

But there were even better times to come. At the end of its 65th year, Molineux became the nerve centre of a nation glued to their TV sets watching grainy footage of a game that has gone down as a landmark moment in British football history. Wolves toppled the crack Hungarian side 3-2 and were declared 'champions of the world'.

Looking on as one of the footballers works out on the rowing machine – players getting fit in the 1930s



Grimefighter TV star Lew Carrington

Star quality

Lew gets last laugh with failing teeth

LEWIS Carrington was born to be a star. A natural funnyman, he won the nation's hearts in the TV documentary Grimefighters.

Known as Lew to his friends, he laughs easily as he recalls his brush with fame and as the unlikely adopted ambassador for the city of Wolverhampton.

Topping 1,500 members of his Grimefighters' Fan Club on social networking website Facebook, Lew had his supporters clamouring for him to appear in the New Year's Honours list.

Still a well-known character on the city streets four years after sharing his unique take on life before the cameras, Lew is now enjoying retirement from his life of grime and a cameo appearance on Harry Hill's Get Toasted.

But hidden beneath the smiles and priceless one-liners, the jovial comic genius was struggling with another often-comedic subject – dentures.

And indirectly, the former environmental waste operative owes his celebrity status to an ill-fitting set of them. "I could have retired from the council earlier, but wanted to save enough money to get my problem fixed," says Lew.

Wife Gill adds: "He'd seen the stories in the papers about how other people had their problems sorted out and had also done a lot of internet research."

Lew, aged 67, of Wednesfield, was cared for by Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC108353, principal at the Denture Clinic and Jonathon Pugh BDS MSc (Implant Dentistry) GDC 62663, principal of Total Implant Solutions in Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton.

Friendly staff

The two clinicians share a long-standing working relationship.

Says Lew: "I was using a bucket-load of fixative just to keep my teeth in. They'd be okay for half-an-hour and then they'd be dancing all over the place.

"My top denture wasn't too bad, but the lower moved all around with eating and laughing was risky. I'd had the trouble for years – every time I'd have a bit of tough steak, I was done for.

"I was a bit apprehensive, but I need not have been. I had two implants to stabilise my lower denture and I never felt a thing. I expected a lot of discomfort, but after a couple of days I was absolutely fine.

"Steve made me the over-dentures for the bottom and a new top set of teeth. They are absolutely great. Nothing was too much trouble for any of the friendly staff and going to see Steve was a pleasure.

"Going to the dentist had never been so good and I am over the moon with the results."

On his star role in Grimefighters, Lew recalls: "There were some funny moments. We'd had a call to pick up a dead cat in Penfields. They said the animal was on the end of a drive. I looked everywhere and couldn't see it.

"There was a charity collection going on in the road where people had left clothing in bags for pick up. By the time I'd found out that the cat had been put into one of them, it had been collected by the charity and the van was disappearing down the road.

"Somebody was gong to get a surprise," adds Lew with a wry smile.

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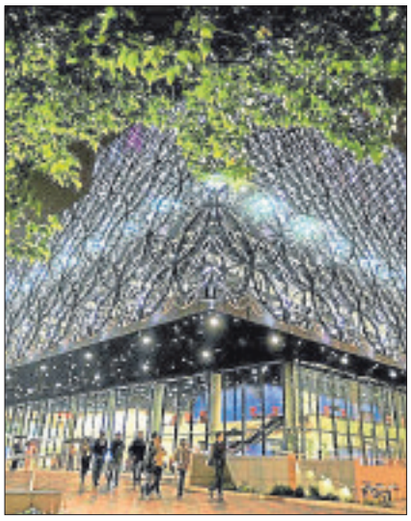

Lit up at night – the Library of Birmingham, which has celebrated a successful first year of operation

AROUND 2.7million visitors have been welcomed through the doors of the £190 million Library of Birmingham since it opened a year ago. Standing high over Centenary Square, the library, which is the biggest of its kind in Europe, has become a landmark in the city centre.

More than 800,000 members are signed up to the library, 21,000 sessions are booked on the public computers every month and nearly 5,000 people are logging onto the free WiFi. Members have also borrowed over 316,000 books, music, films and other items from the Library of Birmingham in the past year. The library, which is home to almost one million books, also won plenty of awards and accolades.

The building has also been designed to break the traditional rules of a library by providing areas where people can socialise and relax.Brian Gambles, director, said the number of visitors to the library since it opened on September 3, 2013 was double the annual figure at the old Central Library. To mark the first anniversary on September 30, they will host Word Up! – a day of activities, performances, music, poetry and reading-related fun for all ages.

Number of NEETs for region in 2pc drop

THE number of young people who are not in education, employment or training in the Black Country has fallen during the last year, it has emerged.

The latest figures show 5.4 per cent of 16 to 18 year olds across the region were not studying or working in May this year, compared to 7.5 per cent at the same point in 2013.

by Peter Madeley

In a report compiled by the Government's Client Caseload Information System, the Black Country is shown to be bucking the national trend for the age group.

The figure for the UK is now 5.4 per cent – around 800,000 – which represents a slight increase on last year. Across the four Black Country authorities a total of 2,210 people aged 16 to 24 were not in education, employment or training known as NEET as of May this year.

Council chiefs in the region said they were pleased the figures had dropped and said it was the result of hard work.

This year's figure in Sandwell was 602, a drop of 2.2 per cent on 2013.

The news represent a boost for an age group that was one of the hardest hit by the rise in unemployment during the financial crisis.

Sandwell Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said the fall was down to improved advice and guidance for young people and an increase in the range and quality of post-16 training courses on offer. The authority has recently launched the Sandwell Guarantee in a bid to create thousands of jobs and apprenticeships.

The scheme pairs young people with businesses seeking to fill new posts, with the authority pledging to split the cost of wages 50/50 for up to a year. In Dudley there was a 1.5 per cent fall.

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Jodie gets set to be a starter

AFTER taking part in the Goldbury celebrations on Sunday, double Commonwealth gold medal winner Jodie Stimpson is now turning her attentions to the Bupa Great Birmingham run, where the athlete is an official starter.

The Oldbury sporting heroine, who won both individual and team triathlon golds for England at the Glasgow games this summer, will be at the starting line to see off those taking part.

More than 17,000 runners have signed up – as organisers predict a record turnout.Event spokesman, David Hart, said: "There is still time to join in the fun, but following the success of the Bupa Great North Run we have seen a noticeable surge in entry levels over the last few days.

To register, visit www.greatrun.org/birmingham.

House plan for offices

PLANS to convert a former office block into a house have been lodged.

The proposals have been put forward for an empty unit at West Cross Shopping Centre in Oldbury Road, Smethwick.

Plans for the house, which would have five bedrooms, as well as communal areas including a kitchen.

The unit, previously used for offices, has been lying empty for more than seven years.

FOCUS ON OLDBURY

Judo club's tribute to cancer victim Jessica, 22

A JUDO club has raised £1,100 for the son of a Black Country mother who died of cancer aged just 22.

Samurai Judo Club held a competition and training day for girls in honour of Jessica Evans to help raise funds for her two-year-old son Riley. Club members were touched by Jessica's battle with cervical cancer.

by Andrew Turton

Jessica, from Oldbury, died earlier this year. She had been refused a smear test nine times because she was not considered old enough.

Sponsors at the fundraising event included A Touch Of Class and Tan Lane Pet Shop from Stourport, No. 93 Café from Bewdley and personal trainer Morgan Evans.

The event was run almost entirely by the girls and women from the club in Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster. Nine of the club's girls officiated as junior referees, while others ran the control table, the kitchen and a raffle table. Riley and his father, Jamie, came to the club to be presented with a cheque by Lauren Fletcher and Olivia Turner, two of the Samurai medallists from the competition.

Laura Dangerfield, one of the club's coaches, said that the club always liked to support small local charities and causes where they could make a real difference, and in particular anything involving children.

Jessica's friends and family have been campaigning for a change in the rules around smear tests. The NHS says screening women under 25 would do more harm than good as tests can produce inaccurate readings leading to unnecessary and harmful investigations and treatment. The lower age of 25 was raised from 20 after advice from the Advisory Committee on Cervical Cancer Screening.

Jessica's mother Marie, aged 46, of Harvington Road, Oldbury, said: ""I had to watch while my beautiful daughter deteriorated. In the end she wasn't able to see or look after herself. She asked only one thing – we do something to ensure no other young woman had to go through what she did."

Lauren Fletcher and Olivia Turner with Riley and his father Jamie, the widower of Jessica Evans, from Oldbury

Lord Paul will speak to bosses at summit

ONE of the speakers at this year's Institute of Asian Businesses annual dinner is the man whose company, with a base in Oldbury, contributed to the construction of one of the world's most expensive and complex experimental facilities.

The Large Hadron Collider, which created Higgs bosons and other particles for observation and study, was one of the projects for the Caparo Group headed by Lord Paul of Marylebone – elevated to the British peerage in 1996.

The steel and engineering empire chief will be joining entrepreneur Hussein Lalani, co-founder of 99p stores on the podium at the IAB dinner on November 29 at Birmingham's ICC.

Caparo has its major regional office in Oldbury and a technology division on Wolverhampton Science Park. Worldwide the company has sites in Europe, Asia and North America.

The 83-year-old is chairman of the company while his son Angad Paul is chief executive.

In the UK the Caparo Innovation Centre, established with the University of Wolverhampton, received the 2013 award for Business Collaboration of the Year. Lord Paul is also honorary Chancellor of the university.

Lord Paul said: " I am delighted to see how Asian businesses are flourishing in the West Midlands."

Police and fire teams at event organised by council

POLICE and fire crews took time out from their duties to take part in a week-long community event. Crews, including both fire service and police representatives, visited Glebefields Primary School on Sandgate Road, Tipton, as part of the event organised by Sandwell Council.

Santokh Singh, partnership coordinator for the council, said: "It was a really fantastic day with a great turnout. Parents are notoriously hard to reach but we were able to do that with the help of the school who were fantastic."

Mr Singh said the week-long event was part of a council initiative to reach out to residents in the area which is one of the most deprived in the borough. Pupils at Glebefields also took part in a Tipton Litterwatch litter pick, quizzed ward councillors about their work, met community wardens and police officers and took part in a host of other activities.

As well as the police and fire crews, representatives from around 25 voluntary agencies attended. Officials from the job centre, various religious groups, road safety organisations and Black Country Housing were also present.

The Eco Bus and Youth Bus projects also made an appearance at the event and parents were encouraged to drop into the school to join pupils in celebrating their community.

Mr Singh said: "We do have a local centre now in every town."

Dinah Bull, with, from left, Brian and Amy Pitts, Laura Steele and Connor Cope, aged three

Holocaust day event workshop

A WORKSHOP is taking place next month for people who want to organise an event to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. The annual day, on January 27, is a time for everyone to pause to remember the millions of people who were murdered or persecuted during the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

Organisers say it is the time to honour the survivors of these atrocities and challenge ourselves to learn the lessons of their experiences to create a safer, better future.

The free activity organiser workshop is organised by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. Attendees will explore the 2015 theme Keep the memory alive, be given inspiration and guidance for their activity, and offered the chance to network with other activity organisers.

Last year 148 activities took place across the West Midlands. It will take place at Birmingham's Fazeley Studios. For more information about our workshops and Holocaust Memorial Day visit hmd.org.uk.

Prices at a record level for property

HOUSE prices in the West Midlands reached a new record high in July – with the average property now valued at £198,000.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics show prices have soared 7.3 per cent from the previous high of £184,000. UK house prices have also reached a new record high of £272,000 on average after surging by 11.7 per cent over the last year.

By John Corser

The West Midlands was one of several UK regions that saw house prices reach fresh all-time highs in July, with it, the East Midlands and the South West now joining London, the East and the South East in having price levels higher than their pre-financial crisis peaks of 2007-2008.

Charles Haresnape, boss of new British bank Aldermore, said: "The housing market picked up momentum again in July as we saw record numbers of first time buyers entering the fray assisted by the Help to Buy scheme and increasingly competitive mortgage deals.

"The pace of growth has picked up all around the country which is fine if you're an existing owner but really piles on the pressure for those still wanting to buy. I sense that there is a growing sense of urgency among borrowers."

Property values in London continue to rise faster than the rest of the country, recording a 19.1 per cent year-on-year jump and taking the average property price in the capital to £514,000. On a month-on-month basis, property values increased by 1.6 per cent across the UK between June and July. House prices in England are now 13 per cent above their previous high, while those in Scotland have climbed to 0.7 per cent above previous peak levels.

The report also showed that first-time buyers face having to pay 13.5 per cent more to get on the property ladder than they did a year ago – and the ONS said this is the highest annual increase recorded for this sector since March 2005.

The average price paid by a first-time buyer in July this year was £209,000.

Figures released by the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML) showed that the number of mortgages handed out to first-time buyers passed 30,000 in July, marking the first time this has happened during a one-month period since August 2007. But first-time buyers are typically having to borrow record amounts to get on the property ladder, with the average size of a new loan taken out by this sector standing at £127,500 in July, according to the CML's figures.

Cole says TAA for group's top role

COMEDIAN Jonny Cole has been elected the new president of amateur theatre group the Tipton Arts Association (TAA).

As part of his role the funnyman, who rose to fame when his song Wednesbury Girl became a YouTube sensation, will help out with sound and lighting at shows and assist with casting decisions.

His predecessor was former House of Commons speaker Baroness Betty Boothroyd.

The TAA was formed 18 years ago and produces two shows a year at venues around the Black Country featuring amateur actors.

It currently has 50 members aged between eight and 83.

Wednesbury-born Cole said he was delighted to be involved with a group that encourages people to express themselves through performance.

The TAA annual pantomime will take place between November 26 and 29 at Coneygre Arts Centre in Tipton. For tickets call 07929 621363.

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Worldwide support as fans fly flag for Baggies

THESE are the fans who are flying the flag for West Bromwich Albion – all around the world.

The Express & Star invited Baggies fans to send in pictures of them proudly wearing their West Brom kits in unlikely locations, and they have done us proud.

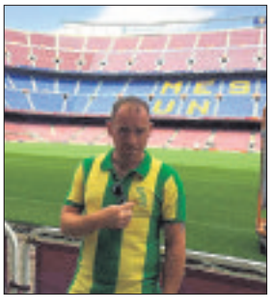
The most distant location so far is Paul Edwards, who was pictured in a shirt and training top at the Sun Corporation rugby ground in Brisbane.

Paul, who used to live in Poplar Avenue, Tividale, has remained loyal to the Albion since emigrating to Australia six years ago. "I subscribe to Fox Sports, and they get every Premier League game, so I pretty much see all the Albion games at the moment," said the 40-year-old, whose picture was taken by his wife Jane.

And while Albion have not made the best of starts to the season, picking up just two points in their first three games, the former Rover worker is confident that things will get better.

"You have got to give the new manager Alan Irvine time," he said.

"You've got to give Irvine a chance. He's a coach, and I think he will get it sorted in the end. If we haven't improved by November, though, I think he might be gone. November tends to be the time when Jeremy Peace looks at getting rid of his managers."


Tom Greenhalgh at Barca's Nou Camp

Daniel Hadley at Weymouth Harbour

Paul Edwards in his Baggies colours at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

Tom Greenhalgh, a steel worker from Oak Road, West Bromwich, appeared to have aspirations of Europe in mind when he was pictured in his yellow-and-green Baggies away shirt outside Barcelona's famous Nou Camp. "I did it at the beginning of August," said Tom, who works at JB & S Lees, near The Hawthorns.

"It was something I had planned. I was on holiday near Barcelona, so we went on a day trip to the Nou Camp and I had my picture taken there. I've done it at grounds around England before, but this is my first time abroad." And Tom, aged 33, says he dreams of the day when the Albion might one day face the mighty Barca.

"We will be playing here within three years with Father Ted at the helm," he quipped, a reference to the Baggies' boss and his apparent resemblance to the late comedy actor Dermot Morgan.

Daniel Hadley, a 19-year-old barman from Ashdene Gardens, Wordsley, sent in a picture of himself next to Weymouth Harbour in his Albion top. "I always like to wear my top when I'm on holiday, to let people know who I support," said Daniel, who works at the Park Tavern in Kingswinford.

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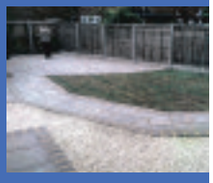

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Dance class talents are showcased

Grange E TG

GRANGE 'E' Guild held their monthly meeting at Grange Court, Stourbridge on September 2. Chairman Hazel Smith read the minutes from the previous meeting which were approved and signed.

Treasurer Jill Attwood gave an up-to-date financial report. Marlene O'Hanlon informed members that all speakers had been booked for 2015 and that items for the shoe box collection was going well.

Chris Holton reported that items for the food bank were still coming in on a regular basis.

With all business completed the evening continued with a Harvest Supper.

This was preceded by a programme of Irish dancing provided by a local dancing school. This proved to be very entertaining.

The five dance group members were very talented and had won many awards.

Food for the supper was all prepared and served by committee members. The evening was a huge success and thanks were given to the committee for all their hard work.

The raffle was drawn with three lucky ladies winning prizes.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, when the speaker will be Mrs Dowthwaite giving a talk entitled 'Getting Ready for Christmas'.

Anyone interested in joining the guild or to come along as a visitor, telephone the secretary Jean Williams at 01384 832439 for further information.

Couple give a guide to dog training

Highgate Ladies Probus Club

Guests Mary and Alan with Florence and Autumn

AT the meeting on September 8, chairman Pauline Heyden welcomed puppy walkers Mary and Alan Reeves who gave an enjoyable and informative talk on the ups and downs of training puppies who go on to be guide dogs.

Members were informed that the lifetime cost of a guide dog is approximately £50,000 and this is raised through sponsorship, etc, as the guide dog service receives no government funding.

Mr and Mrs Reeves brought along Florence and six-months-old puppy Autumn. Both dogs were given lots of fuss which was received with obvious pleasure.

Chocolates for quiz winners

Kingswinford TG

CHAIRMAN Enid Fennell welcomed one new member to the September meeting and also welcomed those returning after various unavoidable absences.

Those who went on the canal boat excursion agreed they had enjoyed very much and suggested a return journey in the spring to watch the ducklings and enjoy a cream tea.

Tickets were on sale for the annual community centre raffle. Members were reminded of the Federation harvest luncheon on October 1. Deposits were also taken for the Christmas Luncheon. Sylvia and Anita offered to wash up, Barbara White was thanked for bring the flowers.

The various sections announced the dates of their next sessions .

The ladies then proceeded to the serious business of the evening, namely the Harvest celebration. Two Harvest hymns were sang and Ann Rogers and Margaret Farmer read suitable poems. A Prayer of thanksgiving was said and the President said Grace.

Members puzzled over Sue Wilson's quiz ,with varying measures of success but everyone was declared winners and received a chocolate as a prize.

Raffle winners were Enid Fennell and Joyce Robins.

The next meeting is on October 13 in the Community Centre in High Street with a talk on 'History For Dummies'.

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A COMBINATION of flexibility, friendly staff and fun classes has helped to firmly establish MegaGym on the Black Country fitness map.

Based in Dudley Port, the gym has attracted enthusiastic members of all ages since its January 2013 opening, with everybody keen to lose or gain weight, boost their fitness levels and adopt healthier lifestyles.

Anytime is workout time as MegaGym is open 24 hours a day 365 days a year, ideal for shift workers, early birds or night owls.

Staffed by highly qualified – and always approachable – personal trainers and instructors with a passion for helping members achieve their goals, the gym boasts 250 state-of-the-art Technogym cardio and resistance machines alongside the all-essential functional training zone.

To ensure the equipment is used safely and effectively, all new members are offered a free induction.

For fitness fans preferring to work out in a group, there are 40 fitness classes to select from including the latest world-class Les Mills programmes including BODYPUMP, GRIT (small group training), CXWORX, RPM and BODYCOMBAT. MegaGym also hosts the famous BeachBody Insanity and Zumba classes. All classes take place in a purpose-built, air conditioned studio.

Gym manager Dave Cross said: "To provide affordable fitness in a relaxed and social atmosphere, we've avoided the gimmicks whilst giving you the best quality service and value for your money. Our prices start at £14.99 and there's also a choice of contract or flexible membership."

MegaGym has a 120 space car park with CCTV and men's and women's changing rooms with power showers, toilets and lockers. There is also a changing and shower facility accessible during the night and into the early hours.

For more details and a video tour, visit www.megagyms.com or pop in for a chat with the friendly team.

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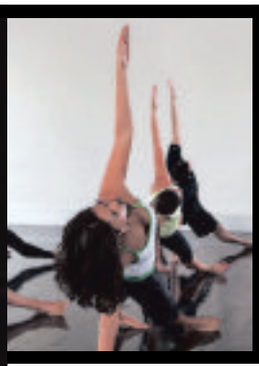

- Kitted out with over 250 state-of-the-art TechnoGym machines for you to use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!
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Lots of banter from late start Lee

Lee Mack
Symphony Hall Birmingham

I AM sure Lee Mack must have a gag about trains. I could find him one if not, considering said transport caused us to miss the end of this gig.

Shame as he was just getting going, too.

The funnyman does have a host of jokes about his family, holidays, his sex life and moving house, though. He even revealed which record he lost his virginity to.

Mack promised some new material and did not let the audience down.

But it was with his banter with the crowd – and quick-witted responses - that particularly made the show.

He posed a quiz about punchlines and catchphrases, with surprising answers and revealed why, as a boy growing up in the north, the film Psycho scared him so much: "Having a shower in midweek."

Sadly, we will never know how it all ended, though with the start being delayed, it would have meant he overran. Maybe that could give him a base for a railway joke after all.

Mark Shipp

REVIEWS

Bleak and powerful evocation

The Russian Doctor
The Door Birmingham Rep

CELEBRATED Russian playwright Anton Chekhov was a medical man, which may explain his clinical, approach to his characters. What is not so well known about the author of The Cherry Orchard, Uncle Vanya, Three Sisters and The Seagull, is that before he wrote these plays he had created one remarkable work of non-fiction.

In 1890 Chekhov made a 3,000 mile journey across Siberia to Sakhalin Island, where he interviewed thousands of prisoners. These interviews and his experiences on the island prompted a book that is a powerful evocation of place and suffering. It has led to a bleak and challenging piece of theatre.

The Russian Doctor is a blend of chilling video imagery by 59 Productions, atmospheric music by Johnny Pilcher and Ewan Campbell and physical performance by Andrew Dawson. He gives a softly-spoken description of Chekhov's experiences before contorting his body in a representation of pain by turns surreal, obtuse and disturbing.

Leon Burakowski

Debbie Harry — still performing new songs despite a back catalogue of classic pop

One way or another — Blondie more than greatest hits show

Blondie, 02 Academy Birmingham

CELEBRATING 40 years, Blondie rode the New Wave to success in the 1970s but new songs in their set on Saturday showed they are not resting on their laurels, even if that includes some of the best pop songs... ever.

Thankfully tenth album, Ghosts of Download, has some good dance-orientated numbers, such as Sugar On The Side, which meant the pace didn't drop dramatically due to the hit-new-hit sequence.

Former pin-up Debbie Harry remains glamorous at 69 and wearing a Parallel Lines inspired outfit she was the focus for the band including fellow founder members Chris Stein on guitar and drummer Clem Burke. Her vocal range may be narrower but on Atomic, to quote the song, tonight she was magnificent.

That was one of 11 classic hits in a 90 minute set that kicked off with recently 1D revived hit One Way Or Another. Rapture morphed into a version of The Beastie Boys' Fight For Your Right and The Tide Is High blending into a cover of Dee-Lite's Groove Is In The Heart. The gig reached a climax with disco-pop classic Heart Of Glass before an encore of Union City Blue, War Child and Dreaming left the fans beaming.

Leon Burakowski

ADVERTISEMENT

THE WINTER KILLER: CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

So easily avoided with a few simple proactive steps

It's the silent killer. With no taste, odour or colour, carbon monoxide (CO) hides in the winter shadows. Even in small quantities, CO can be deadly. Despite its deadly nature, many homeowners are unaware of the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning or how it occurs.

My name is Sundeep Samra, and I work for local gas fitters Gas Installations. We're committed to raising awareness of carbon monoxide poisoning and reminding homeowners about the importance of testing their gas appliances. Incorrectly installed or poorly maintained boilers, cookers or fires are the most common sources of carbon

monoxide, and with Gas Safety Week taking place 15th - 21st September, we've put together some information that should help to keep you, and your family, safe over the cold months.

As summer draws to a close, winter nights are fast approaching. And when the temperature drops, what's the first thing we all do? Turn on the heating. There's nothing better than sitting in a warm living room, doors and windows shut with the fire warming your toes.

But for many people, especially the elderly, it's these conditions that can prove to be the most deadly. Because CO has no smell, taste or colour, it's impossible to know if you're breathing it in, which is why it's so important to get your appliances tested every 12 months.

What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide is released when fuels such as gas, oil, coal or wood don't burn fully. For example, when a fire burns in an enclosed space, such as a living room, the oxygen is gradually used up and replaced with carbon dioxide. The lack of oxygen means the fuel can't burn, and so it releases carbon monoxide into the air.

After breathing in carbon monoxide, it enters the bloodstream where it attaches to red blood cells. When this happens, the blood is no longer able to carry oxygen around the body. There are various warning signs you can look out for if you suspect you are inhaling CO. The symptoms of CO poisoning are very similar to many common illnesses, such as flu or food poisoning and can include headaches, nausea, dizziness, drowsiness, lack of energy, muscular weakness and chest or stomach pains.

If you suspect that you are the victim of CO poisoning, ask yourself:

- Are other people in my house feeling unwell too?
- When I leave the house for a period of time (for example, going on holiday or a weekend away) do I start to feel better?

If the answer is yes to either of these questions, you may be suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning. Make sure to turn off all fuel burning appliances, including fires, boilers and cookers and open the windows. Move away from the building, seek medical attention and call a Gas Safe registered engineer to diagnose the problem and make repairs.

Aside from feeling poorly, there are other warning signs to look out for that can tell you if you have a CO leak. A simple one is to take a look at the colour of the flame in your boiler. A blue flame is a healthy flame, but a yellow flame means danger and we recommend taking the steps listed above.

A pilot light that frequently goes out is another warning sign, along with black sooty marks around your appliances.

Who is at risk?

CO, even in small quantities is extremely poisonous. The elderly community, pregnant women, young children and babies and those with breathing problems or heart disease are especially at risk.

During the cold winter months, many elderly homeowners inadvertently put themselves at risk of CO poisoning by spending large amounts of time in unventilated rooms with gas fires. For those with mobility problems who sleep in the living room, the risk is even greater. But you can significantly reduce this risk and protect yourself and your family by taking a few simple steps.

Just like you'd fit a smoke alarm to warn you if your house was on fire, a carbon monoxide alarm will alert you if the CO levels in your house are high. All of your gas appliances, including your gas boiler, gas cooker and gas fire should be gas safety checked once a year and serviced regularly according to manufacturer's instructions, by a Gas Safe registered engineer. Your engineer will check the appliance is working correctly, that any ventilation routes are clear and working properly and that the safety devices are working. Lastly, don't attempt to fit a gas appliance yourself. It can be incredibly dangerous.

To find out more about the dangers of carbon monoxide or to arrange for a Gas Safe registered engineer to conduct a gas safety check, don't hesitate to give me a call on 0800 2800 474/494 or 0121 673 8395 or drop me an email on enquiries@gas-installations.com.

It's better to be safe than sorry.

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It's official we are a 'Good School'

Ofsted GRADED GOOD

'Improvement in standards has been more rapid than found nationally and, in 2013, the school was ranked 35th in the country's 200 most improved schools.'

Ofsted say . . . *'The behaviour of students is good. This is a calm and orderly school, with high expectations of courtesy and respect.'*

'A wide range of strong partnerships means that students are exceptionally well prepared for their futures beyond the school.'

'Students throughout the school enjoy their lessons and show positive attitudes to their learning. Relationships between staff and students are strong.'

Ofsted 2014

OPEN EVENING: **Tuesday 23 September 2014 6.00pm - 9.00pm**

OPEN DAY: **Wednesday 24 September 2014 9.30am - 2.30pm**

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Enrichment activities important part of academy life

Preparation for a smooth transition

First class facility paired with enriched curriculum

STAFF at George Salter Academy in west Bromwich pride themselves on the range and variety of study support opportunities which are provided both in curriculum time and outside of normal academy hours.

Students undertake a variety of trips, enrichment activities and flexible learning days to complement their studies and enliven the curriculum. There is also an extensive range of after-school clubs offered every day of the week, as well as sports and arts activities on Saturdays and during holiday periods.

Refurbishment

In addition an impressive refurbishment programme totalling £12 million is nearing completion, with a brand new Science and Performing Arts block incorporating a new main entrance to the Academy opening in January 2015. That's not to mention the new English block that opened in April 2014, and refurbished Technology, Art & Design, PE, Language, IT and Humanities that have all been completed in the last 12 months

Staff are looking forward to meeting prospective families on Thursday, September 25 at new year 7 student evening, where visitors can tour the academy facilities and meet current students and staff.

For more information see the website at www.georgesalter.com

This is a stressful time of year for many parents of Year 6 children applying for secondary school, and so, at George Salter Academy, teaching staff feel it is important to let both students and parents know how this transition from primary to Year 7 is managed.

High on the list of priorities is for new students arriving in Year 7 to have some experience of Sandwell's George Salter Academy well before they start in the Autumn term.

In the months approaching, several opportunities exist for prospective students and their families to visit the academy and start to get a feel for the ethos of which teachers and staff are so proud and which contributes to its success.

Every family is invited personally to meet a senior member of staff, and discuss any issues prior to their child attending an induction day before the summer holiday period.

In addition every student is encouraged to attend at least one of three transition programmes, when they experience a wide range of activities from sport and performing arts to science and technology.

Broad spectrum of subjects on offer

Specialist performing arts opportunities

When students begin there is a comprehensive package of support which caters for the needs of every child.

This includes a peer support programme from the previous year 7 group who become Year 7 ambassadors and help them settle into their new surroundings.

Students are allocated to one of four houses, where they have the support of their form tutor, a head of house and a full-time, non-teaching pastoral manager who is on hand to provide support at any time of the academy day.

For those students with specific medical needs there is an academy health advisor based on site.

Teachers believe that it is their job to develop students not only as learners but as human beings who are happy and can contribute effectively to society. Great emphasis is therefore placed on developing students' ability to work together, to work independently, to be creative, to develop essential interpersonal skills, as well as core skills such as ICT, literacy and numeracy. Students are offered different pathways according to their academic ability and they all systematically develop these essential attributes.

Of particular note, 20 places are available for new year 7 students who wish to develop their potential in performing arts through the "Excellence in Music, Dance and drama" programmes.

Students who are successful in securing one of these prestigious places receive specialised support in their particular talent. For example musicians receive free instrumental / vocal tuition with their fees paid. They also follow a slightly different timetable to develop their talent without impacting on their academic progress.

OPEN EVENING *for Prospective Year 7 Students*

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2014 6.30pm

Is your child enthusiastic about Music, Dance or Drama?

If so, join us at 6 pm before the official open event starts for information regarding our 'Excellence in Music, Drama and Dance' programmes

70% of our students achieved 5 or more A* - C Grades in GCSE including Maths and English.

Come along to find out more about us and how to apply for a place.

If you are unable to attend the Open Evening you are more than welcome to make an appointment to view the Academy on Friday 10th October, 2014

Tours commence at 10am & 11.30am

[OAT] Ormiston Academies Trust

GEORGE SALTER ACADEMY

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Tel: 0121 553 4665 www.georgesalter.com

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ETHOS AT SCHOOL REAPS REWARDS FOR STUDENTS

Hard - working pupils at St Thomas More Catholic School produced their best ever GCSE and A Level results this year as the school's insistence on diligence and excellence reaped rewards.

At GCSE the number of students achieving five A* to C grades including English and Mathematics was 58 per cent with results in the key subjects of English and Mathematics bucking the national trend with 74per cent at A* to C up from 70per cent in English and 67 per cent up from 63 per cent in Mathematics. At A Level the average point score was up by half a grade per A level with the A* to B rate up by one per cent to 28%, meaning more and more pupils will gain access to the nation's best universities.

Headteacher Peter Mayland said: "These are the best public examination results in the school's 41 - year history and are testament to a relentless concentration on each individual student's needs and continually examining how we might enable each of them to realise their full potential."

Mr Mayland: "Success at both GCSE and A Level begins from the day each child enters the school at the age of 11 and not just from a focus on the examination and we are aiming to get better and better."

Mr Mayland added: "I am incredibly proud to be the Headteacher of St Thomas More Catholic School. It is an exciting, vibrant and supportive community, blessed with wonderful young people, with whom it is a privilege to work."

"Since 1973, the school has earned a region-wide reputation for academic rigour, breathtaking music, art and drama, exciting sport and, most importantly, the development of socially responsible, highly creative young men and women whose approach to life and others is underpinned by Gospel values.

"We are delighted to welcome children of all faiths and denominations and benefit immensely from a diverse, multi-cultural community, we are avowedly Catholic in our approach and expect all children to participate in our celebrations of God's work.

"We want the next generation not only to be equipped with outstanding academic and vocational qualifications but to share values which are underpinned by a common bond of respect for others and the world around them, endeavour and joyfulness. That is why we place a love of God at the heart of all we do."

Allied to the provision of an exciting, eclectic and ever - changing list of opportunities in culture and sport, St Thomas More Catholic school promotes strong and effective partnerships with leading commercial, educational and sporting partners. Mr Mayland added: "We feel St Thomas More Catholic School plays a key role at the heart of the community, always encouraging young people to give back something to the Black Country."

The St Thomas More Catholic School philosophy is supported not only by an inspirational teaching staff, but by some superb facilities across their attractive campus in Bilston opened in 2003. It boasts a state-of-the-art Learning Resource Centre, a large Sports Hall, enhanced ICT provision, several ICT suites, a dedicated Chapel, purpose built, designed and furnished classrooms, a Drama area, a Sixth Form Study Centre, a 250 seat theatre and assembly hall and climbing wall and fitness suite.

Come and see what makes a St Thomas More education so special at our Open Evening on Thursday September 25 between 6pm and 8.30pm. Our Sixth Form Open Evening is on Wednesday October 8th between 6pm and 8.30pm.

GOD'S SERVANT FIRST

Year 7 Open Evening

Thursday 25 September
6.00pm- 8.30pm

Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 8 October
6.00pm - 8.30pm

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Immerse yourself in fashion festival

COMPETITION

CLOTHES Show Live, in association with ALCATEL ONETOUCH, will return to Birmingham's NEC Birmingham this December to offer a unique fashion experience.

With catwalk shows, makeovers, manicures, beauty demonstrations and style advice, the shopping haven makes for the perfect day out.

Whether you're looking to update your wardrobe, fuel inspiration for a career in fashion, or meet your favourite celebrities and industry icons, prepare to immerse yourself in the ultimate fashion festival.

Affordable

Open from December 5-9, Clothes Show Live is sure to provide something for everyone as it displays home designer and boutique collections, emerging designers, next generation talent, vintage finds and affordable fashion. With an endless Beauty Hall filled with gift bags and goodies, you can enjoy the ultimate shopping spree.

And you could be there for free. Organisers have teamed up with the Chronicle series to offer 90 pairs of tickets for the opening day of the show – Friday, December 5.

Each year the show welcomes a host of leading names in fashion, and this year's fashion experts are made up of Hilary Alexander OBE, Dame Zandra Rhodes, Henry Holland, and the Clothes Show's original presenter Caryn Franklin MBE.

Your favourite celebs including stars from the world of music and reality TV will be returning to the show. Don't miss Rick Edwards and Neon Jungle as well as your favourites from the cast of TOWIE, Lauren Goodger and Amy Childs, along with the Made in Chelsea stars Jamie Laing and Millie Mackintosh ...and many more!

Take time to relax and pamper yourself at one of the many hair and beauty stations. With tutorials and make-over transformations, it could be time to discover a whole new you! Get the latest tips, tricks and inside knowledge from industry experts.

The event's highlight is the award-winning ALCATEL ONETOUCH Fashion Theatre, which this year plays homage to the Fashion Capital of 2013, New York! Every ticket includes a dedicated seat to be mesmerised by the vibes of the Big Apple for the world's largest catwalk performance. For more information and tickets go to clothesshowlive.com

Splash of colour and plenty of choice of catwalk shows

TO ENTER

Simply answer the following question

Where is the fashion capital of 2013?

Send entries to Clothes Show competition, Chronicles (editorial) 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Closing date: September 25. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

Competition tickets are for the Friday show date.

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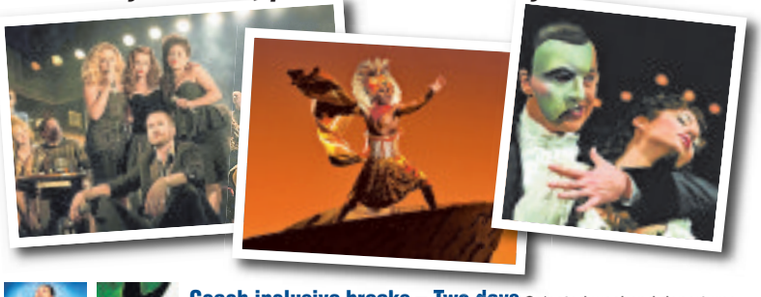

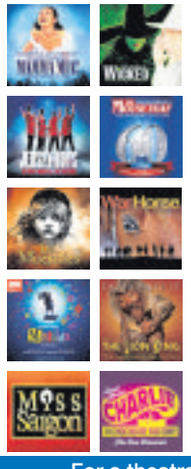

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**The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability – supplements apply Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X).*

For a theatre brochure call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

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Riverdance is to celebrate 20 years

IT'S been 20 years since Riverdance, the spectacular Irish phenomena, first burst onto the scene when an excerpt was performed during the Eurovision Song Contest in Dublin.

The show mixing traditional Irish dance with tap and a whole lot more went on to achieve global success. It has been seen by more than 2.9 million people across the UK and by TV audiences in excess of 2 billion.

The cast includes All-Ireland, Great Britain, All-Scotland, and North American Irish dance champion Andrew O'Reilly.

Riverdance 2014 will be performed from Tuesday to Thursday at the new-look NIA in Birmingham city centre. Tickets are £46.50. Call 0844 3388000.

The Kite Runner adapted for stage

KHALED Hosseini's haunting Afghan tale, The Kite Runner, has been adapted for the stage and is at Birmingham Rep September 22 to October 4.

At the Rep's The Studio Lisa Dwan performs the Samuel Beckett trilogy, Not I, Footfall, Rockaby, until Saturday.

Lyngo Theatre present children's fairy tale Jack and the Beanstalk at The Rep's Door with performances on Saturday morning and afternoon.

A new comedy drama about a British Sikh family, Happy Birthday Sunita, is being performed at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday.

Dance delight as Birmingham Royal Ballet is returning home

Uplifting, nostalgic romance

FANS of classic 1980s movie Dirty Dancing will be having the time of their lives when the uplifting tale about romance against the odds is staged at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre for nearly three weeks.

The latest production of the show, which was a West End hit, is at the Lichfield Street venue from Tuesday, September 23, until Saturday, October 11.

Set in an upstate New York holiday resort during the 1960s, it tells of the love between Baby and Johnny, a young holidaymaker and the resort dance instructor, played in the movie by Jennifer Grey and Patrick Swayze.

Featuring such 1960s tunes as Do You Love Me and Hey Baby, this touring production has Gareth Bailey as Johnny Castle and Roseanna Frascona as Frances 'Baby' Houseman and recreates that most famous movie dancefloor moment... the lift.

Nobody puts Baby in a corner — a scene from Dirty Dancing

A REVIVAL of David Bintley's gothic fairy tale Beauty and the Beast and three one-act ballets, each touched by war, feature in the Birmingham Royal Ballet's autumn programme from next week.

BRB will return home to the Birmingham Hippodrome stage from 30 September to 11 October. First up, until October 4, will be BRB artistic director David Bintley's ever-popular Beauty and the Beast.

That will be followed, from October 8 to 11, by Shadows of War, a triple bill of ballets which have a connection with war. It features Kenneth MacMillan's La Fin du jour, which captures the glamorous 'la plage' lifestyle enjoyed by bright young things in the 1920s and 30s until brought to an end by the Second World War. Robert Helpmann's 1944 Miracle in the Gorbals was a great leap forward for British ballet when it dispensed with all the glamour of traditional ballets, replacing it with a gritty realism.

Scottish

Bintley's Flowers of the Forest is a ballet in two parts set to music by Malcolm Arnold and Benjamin Britten. It takes its title from the ballad to Scottish youth slain on Flodden Field in the war between England and Scotland. Four Scottish Dances presents a picture postcard view of Scotland whilst Scottish Ballad strikes a serious note.

The BRB will then be back at the Hippodrome with their Christmas treat for the Midlands, Sir Peter Wright's The Nutcracker from November 28 to December 13.

There is also ballet at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre this week when English Youth Ballet give dozens of aspiring young dancers from the West Midlands the chance to pirouette alongside professional principals in a traditional production of The Sleeping Beauty. More than 100 youngsters aged from eight to 18 will join the eight professionals in this opulent staging of a much-loved ballet tomorrow evening and twice on Saturday, matinee and evening.

A 'Zulu ballet' can be seen at Birmingham Symphony Hall on Friday, October 3, when the harmonies of South African vocal group Ladysmith Black Mambazo merge with Mark Baldwin's choreography blending Zulu traditions with ballet and contemporary dance. Inala is a one night only performance by 18 dancers and singers. There is more dance, at Birmingham Town Hall, on October 8 when Paco Pena brings his flamenco company to the venue for a production entitled Requiem for the Earth.

The revamped revival of Andrew Lloyd Webber's Cats continues at Birmingham Hippodrome until September 27 and adult's only puppet musical Avenue Q continues at the New Alexandra Theatre to Saturday, followed by new 1970s jukebox musical Blockbuster from Tuesday to Saturday, featuring Paul Nicholas and Suzanne Shaw.

Belle met — scene from Beauty and the Beast

Cor baby it's really he at the Robin 2

OTWAY and Barrett, who found fame in the 1970s with their debut album John Otway and Wild Willy Barrett, will play Bilston's Robin 2 on Sunday. The record, produced by The Who guitarist Pete Townshend, was released in 1976 and spawned hit single Really Free, which reached the dizzy heights of 27 on the chart a year later.

Rock and Roll's Greatest Failure — Otway the Movie was released last year with the help of his fiercely dedicated fan base, who funded the project, and has now made it to DVD. To celebrate Otway returns to the stage with his original songwriting partner. Advance tickets are £12.50 or £15 on the door. Call 01902 401211 or visit therobin.co.uk

Singers are on the comeback trail

PICK of the gigs this week includes the return of singer-songwriter Beverley Craven at the MAC in Edgbaston tonight as part of a tour to mark release of new album Change of Heart.

Former frontman of goth gods The Mission, Wayne Hussey, has a solo show at the Robin 2 in Bilston on Monday.

That's the same night that alt-J rock the Civic Hall at Wolverhampton with their new album This Is All Yours.

Soul, hip hop and rap fans will be heading over to Birmingham's O2 Academy on Tuesday for the return of Ms Lauryn Hill, as the former Fugee starts a comeback.

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CHOICE

Jenna Coleman

Doctor Who, BBC 1, 7.30pm
The Time Lord has never shied away from a challenge – in fact, he's more likely than most to face them head-on. So when he's offered the chance to have a go at breaking into the most dangerous bank in the cosmos, he grabs it with both hands – after all, such opportunities don't come every day, even for centuries-old adventurers. The Doctor won't be alone during the task – lending a hand will be a beautiful shape-shifter, a cyber-augmented gamer and, of course, trusty sidekick Clara. And they will have to have all their wits about them if they're to overcome the bank's deadly security as well as the fearsome Teller – a powerful creature that can detect guilt. Sci-fi drama, starring Peter Capaldi and Jenna Coleman, with a guest appearance by Keeley Hawes.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** Formula 1: Singapore Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. Suzi Perry presents action from the Singapore Grand Prix qualifying session at the Marina Bay Street Circuit, where the 14th round of the season takes place.

6.25 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.40 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong challenges famous contestants from children's TV. The four pairs are former Play School presenters Johnny Ball and Carol Chell, kids' game show hosts Dave Benson-Phillips and Pat Sharp, Horrible Histories stars Jim Howick and Ben Wilibond and PC Plum and Miss Hoolie from Balamory – otherwise known as actors Andrew Agnew and Julie Wilson Nimmo. Richard Osman has all the answers.

7.30 Doctor Who. The Time Lord is given a task he cannot refuse – to steal from the most dangerous bank in the cosmos – bringing him face to face with a creature that can detect a person's guilt.

8.20 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton hosts the quiz in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws, with Gaby Roslin.

9.10 Casualty. Connie's old boss Andrea returns to the ED and risks a boy's life to conceal her secret. Lofty worries about a patient's mental health and Dixie is jealous of Tamzin and Jeff.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, which included West Ham United v Liverpool at Upton Park and Aston Villa v Arsenal at Villa Park.

11.40 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Millwall v Nottingham Forest.

1.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 Film: The Falcon in Hollywood. (1944) **7.15 Film:** The Falcon in San Francisco. (1945) **8.20** The Trials of Life. (R) **9.10** The Trials of Life. (R) **10.00** Map Man. (R) **10.30** South Africa Walks. (R) **11.00** Great Continental Railway Journeys. (R) **12.00** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. **12.25** Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. (R) **12.55** Rick Stein's Mediterranean Escapes. (R) **1.55** Maggie Smith: Talking Pictures. **2.35 Film:** Ladies in Lavender. (2004) Period drama, starring Judi Dench. **4.10 Film:** Six Days Seven Nights. (1998) Romantic adventure, starring Harrison Ford and Anne Heche. **5.45** The £100K House: Tricks of the Trade. (R)

6.45 Flog It! Thomas Plant and Catherine Southon value items at London Zoo in Regent's Park, while Paul Martin tours some of the site's listed buildings. (R)

7.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring orders his blundering platoon to guard the bank's money until repairs on the bomb-damaged vault are completed. Comedy, with Arthur Lowe and John Le Mesurier. (R)

8.00 Operation Stonehenge: What Lies Beneath. The concluding part of the documentary focuses on the construction, design and enduring significance of the iconic stone circle and the ancient civilisation that flourished around it. With access to the ground-breaking research of a revolutionary project led by the University of Birmingham and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute in Vienna, the programme reveals new insights into Britain's world-famous prehistoric monument. (R)

9.00 Film: Defiance. (2008) Three Jewish brothers escape into the woods during the 1939 Nazi invasion of Poland, and launch a series of guerrilla attacks on German forces. As word of their actions spreads, other refugees join them to form a larger resistance movement. However, one of the brothers fears their struggle is doomed. Second World War drama, starring Daniel Craig and Liev Schreiber.

11.05 Peaky Blinders. The Lees ransack the Shelbys' betting shop, Campbell puts pressure on Thomas to deliver Freddie and the stolen guns, and John reveals he intends to remarry. (R)

12.05 TOTP2. (R) **1.05 Film:** A Boy Called Dad. (2009) **2.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.40** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.15** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **8.30** The Munch Box. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.30 Film:** Columbo: Swan Song. (1974) **1.30** Catchphrase. (R) **2.15** I Never Knew That About Britain. (R) **2.45** The X Factor. (R) **3.50 Film:** The Incredible Hulk. (2008) Comic-book adventure, starring Edward Norton.

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill marvels at a performance by One Direction lookalikes and presents a particularly horrific clip. (R)

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Samia Ghadie, Alex Brooker, Annabel Giles and Julian Clary compete to win thousands of pounds for charity by taking on one of the show's resident trivia experts in a test of their general knowledge. However, they must work as a team to build their prize pot and stay one step ahead of the Chaser. Bradley Walsh hosts.

8.00 The X Factor. Having proved themselves in front of the judges, the hopefuls must now perform for an audience of almost 5,000 as the Wembley Arena auditions continue. Expect tears, drama and difficult decisions as the contestants sing for their lives in an attempt to win a place at boot camp and move one step closer to a potentially life-changing record deal. Dermot O'Leary presents.

9.20 Through the Keyhole. Kian Egan, Christine Bleakley and Warwick Davis make up this week's panel as Keith Lemon tours mystery homes and challenges them to guess the identities of the famous occupants.

10.20 ITV News; Weather.

10.40 Film: The Shawshank Redemption. (1994) A banker wrongly jailed for his wife's murder forms an extraordinary friendship with a fellow inmate over the course of their sentences. Drama, with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman.

1.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Trans World Sport. **6.55** Great Scottish Swim. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** Weekend Kitchen. **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **10.55** Frasier. (R) **11.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** Gadget Man. (R) **1.25** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ayr and Newbury. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Beatles-loving Scouser David Goodier hosts the final dinner party in Cambridge, hoping to impress his guests with a 1960s Merseybeat dress code and a course of "Spicy Beatballs". (R)

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Sarah Beeny's Double Your House for Half the Money. In Fleckney, Leicestershire, a couple battle the elements to renovate a dilapidated property, while in Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, newlyweds expand an old two-bedroom semi. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. GP Peter Berkin and his wife Chard, an alternative medicine practitioner, have decided to build a new home at the bottom of their garden, but cannot agree on any part of the design. Peter is a keen hobbyist who wants the house to feature a workshop where he can build a plane, and he's planning to spend twice the £200,000 budget Chard has in mind. Kevin McCloud follows their progress. (R)

9.00 Film: The A-Team. (2010) Four soldiers are sent on a top-secret mission in Iraq that results in them being imprisoned for a crime they did not commit. When they learn the culprit is trying to sell equipment for producing fake currency, they break out of prison to find both him and evidence of their innocence. Action adventure based on the 1980s TV series, with Liam Neeson, Bradley Cooper, Sharlto Copley and Quinton "Rampage' Jackson.

11.20 Film: Sexy Beast. (2000) A retired safe-breaker living in Spain is visited by his former gangland boss, who needs his help with a bank job in London. Crime thriller, with Ray Winstone.

1.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **2.05** Homeland. (R) **3.05** Hollyoaks. **5.10** Simply Italian. (R) **5.40** NFL: Rush Zone.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **10.15** Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20 Film:** The Battle of the V1. (1958) Second World War adventure, with Michael Rennie. **2.25 Film:** U-571. (2000) Second World War adventure, starring Matthew McConaughey. **4.35 Film:** The Great Escape. (1963) Second World War drama, starring Steve McQueen.

8.05 The First Great Escape. Documentary using original accounts and diaries extracts to tell the story of a prison break staged by British officers from the Holzminden PoW camp in Hanover during the First World War, inspiring the famous breakout from Stalag Luft III in March 1944 that was depicted in the classic 1963 film The Great Escape. The original plan, staged in July 1918, involved inmates making use of cutlery as digging tools to create a tunnel and bed slats to shore it up, with 29 men making it to freedom on the evening of July 24. (R)

9.00 World War II in Colour. This edition focuses on the effectiveness of the German blitzkrieg – intense military campaigns that aimed to bring about a swift victory using tanks supported by aircraft and infantry. This new type of warfare took the Allies by surprise and allowed Hitler to seize Poland and France within the space of several weeks. Actor Robert Powell narrates the story of the global conflict, told using colourised archive footage, state-of-the-art terrain mapping and cutting-edge computer graphics, and based on government papers and previously classified files. (R)

9.55 5 News Weekend.

10.00 Live International Boxing. Kid Galahad v Adeilson Dos Santos. Coverage of the super bantamweight bout at Ponds Forge in Sheffield, as the rising British star faces a Brazilian opponent.

12.00 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** Once Upon a Time. Cora tries to get to Mr Gold before the dark magic dies with him. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. Highlights of the series. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes **8.00** Top Gear **9.10 Film:** StreetDance 2 (2012) **10.30** Russell Howard's Good News **11.00** Family Guy **2.00** Bad Education **2.30** Cuckoo **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **8.00** Yellowstone **9.00** Crimes of Passion **10.30** The Story of Top of the Pops 1979 **11.30** Animals Through the Night: Sleepover at the Zoo **1.00** Top of the Pops: 1979 – Big Hits **2.00** Yellowstone **3.00** Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **4.00** Close

ITV2
11.00 The X Factor **1.15** Take Me Out **2.45** Best of You've Been Framed! **3.45** You've Been Framed: A-Z **4.45** You've Been Framed! **5.15 Film:** Cats & Dogs (2001) **7.00 Film:** Twister (1996) **9.20** The Xtra Factor **10.20** Celebrity Juice **11.05** The X Factor **12.25** The Xtra Factor **1.25** Plebs **2.15** Two and a Half Men **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV3
12.05 A Touch of Frost **2.05 Film:** Columbo: Fade in to Murder (1976) **3.40** Wycliffe **4.50** Inspector Morse **6.55** Rosemary & Thyme **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Bomb Girls **12.00** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes **1.10** Judge Judy **1.55** Movies Now **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.00 The Professionals **12.05** The New Avengers **2.20** World Rally Championship Highlights **3.20 Film:** The Battle of Midway (1976) **6.00** Storage Wars **7.00** The Motorbike Show **8.00** River Monsters **9.00 Film:** The Man with the Golden Gun (1974) **11.40 Film:** The Silence of the Lambs (1991) **2.00** Minder **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **4.30** Teleshopping

E4
11.30 How I Met Your Mother **12.30** Melissa & Joey **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **2.30** How I Met Your Mother **3.30** 2 Broke Girls **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **5.30** Made in Chelsea NYC **6.35** The 100 **7.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **8.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Get Him to the Greek (2010) **11.15** The Big Bang Theory **11.40** How I Met Your Mother **12.40** Almost Royal **1.15** Drifters **1.50** PhoneShop **2.20** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.15** Glee **4.00** Desperate Housewives

Film4
11.00 Merrill's Marauders (1962) **1.00** Five Children and It (2004) **2.50** Big Miracle (2012) **4.55** Ladyhawke (1985) **7.20** Airplane II: The Sequel (1982) **9.00** Transformers (2007) **11.45** Sightseers (2012) **1.30** Saturday Night Fever (1977) **3.25** Close

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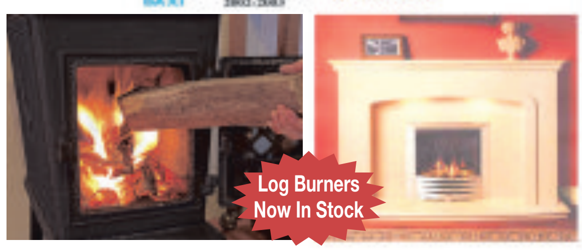

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CHOICE

Laura Carmichael

Downton Abbey, ITV, 9.00pm
New series. The eagerly awaited fifth series of Julian Fellowes' hit period drama begins. It's now 1924, and while Britain feels the winds of change swept in by a new Labour government, Downton's residents – both above and below stairs – are undergoing alterations too. After mourning the death of his beloved wife Lady Sybil for four years, Branson decides it's time he got on with his life, although Robert isn't comfortable about the ex-chauffeur's relationship with local teacher Sarah Bunting. Mary is also ready for love again – but which of her beaus is her Mr Right? Meanwhile, Edith struggles to cope with being parted from her baby, Jimmy receives unwanted female attention and plans for a war memorial cause tension. Allen Leech, Daisy Lewis and Michelle Dockery star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.40** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Country. **3.00** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Lifeline. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Formula 1: Singapore Grand Prix Highlights. Suzi Perry introduces the key moments of the 14th race of the season, staged at the Marina Bay Street Circuit.

6.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. In Devon, Matt Baker hears about a Second World War bomber that crashed on Dartmoor and joins a farmers' co-operative. Anita Rani meets a sculptor inspired by the local trees. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team visit Kirby Hall in Northamptonshire, where members of the public bring along antiques and collectibles to hear their stories and find out their worth. Items include a jade bowl once used as a butter dish, marine paintings from the family of Captain Bligh, a vintage TV set, a medieval ring found with the aid of a metal detector and a wind-up Charlie Chaplin doll. In the new feature looking back at previous items, art specialist Philip Mould hopes to learn more about a 500-year-old religious painting, originally featured in 2010 and now fully restored.

9.00 Our Girl. New series. Lacey Turner stars in this follow-up to last year's one-off drama about an aimless young woman who joins the Army, following her deployment to Afghanistan.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. A review of the latest Premier League action, which included Manchester City v Chelsea at the Etihad Stadium and Leicester City v Manchester United at the King Power Stadium.

11.50 Film: The Resident. (2011) A doctor moves into a spacious new apartment, but realises her landlord is dangerously obsessed with her. Horror, starring Hilary Swank and Christopher Lee.

1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Countryfile. (R) **7.00** Monty Don's Italian Gardens. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** The Football League Show. (R) **10.20** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.50** Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) **12.20** Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. (R) **12.50** Rick Stein's Mediterranean Escapes. (R) **1.50 Film:** 4 for Texas. (1963) Comedy Western, starring Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra. **3.45** Flog It! (R) **4.30** Equator. (R) **5.30** Penguins on a Plane: Great Animal Moves. Part two of two. The transportation of saltwater crocodiles and wolves. (R)

6.30 Rugby League: Super League Play-Offs. Tanya Arnold presents action from the opening matches, featuring the qualifying and elimination play-offs, as the sides look to take their next step towards reaching the Grand Final.

7.30 Dad's Army. Capt Mainwaring and the platoon offer to help Pte Godfrey's widowed friend gather in the harvest on her farm – but their well-meaning efforts end in predictable chaos. (R)

8.00 Dragons' Den. A couple hope to win investment for their fruity alcohol alternative and two recent university graduates bring their range of campus fashions into the Den. (R)

9.00 Life in Solitary. Documentary following the new warden of Maine State Prison as he tries to reform the system and release dangerous inmates from solitary confinement back into the general population.

10.00 Mock the Week. Host Dara O Briain and regulars Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons are joined by Rob Beckett, Gary Delaney, Sara Pascoe and Romesh Ranganathan for the topical comedy quiz. (R)

10.30 Peaky Blinders. Thomas deals with an IRA chief out to avenge his cousin's death, Campbell gets closer to finding the stolen guns and Grace has to decide where her loyalties lie. (R)

11.30 Peaky Blinders. Secrets are revealed that force the Shelbys to face up to the problems that have divided them, while Campbell unleashes one last plan to take down the gang. Last in the series. (R)

12.25 Film: Don't Worry About Me. (2009) **1.45** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.40** Holby City. (R) **3.40** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.40** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.20** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **8.30** Big Time Rush. **9.00** The Aquabats! Super Show! **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.30 Film:** Carry On Follow That Camel. (1967) **1.20 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd. (1993) Comedy sequel, starring Charles Grodin. **3.00** The X Factor. (R) **4.15** Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.10 You've Been Framed! Surreal comedy from the mind of Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' clips, featuring the horrors of the Harry Styles Finishing School and the sight of Beyonce without her make-up. (R)

6.35 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium. Jason Manford hosts the variety show, with music by Maroon 5, Earth, Wind & Fire, Ella Henderson and Evita star Madalena Alberto, plus Canadian acrobats Les 7 Doigts de la Main.

8.00 The X Factor. The search for a star continues at Wembley Arena as the judges give their verdicts on the hopefuls' second auditions. Dermot O'Leary meets the acts as they step into the spotlight.

9.00 Downton Abbey. New series. Branson's blossoming relationship with local teacher Sarah Bunting causes Robert concern, Jimmy receives unwanted female attention and Thomas gives Baxter an ultimatum.

10.30 ITV News; Weather.

10.50 The Unforgettable Larry Grayson. Tribute to the comedian and game-show host who was hailed as an overnight success at the age of 51 and became famous for his catchphrases and camp performances. (R)

11.20 Premiership Rugby Union. Highlights of the latest top-flight fixtures, which included Bath v Leicester Tigers, Harlequins v Wasps and Newcastle Falcons v Northampton Saints.

12.20 The Store. **2.20** Motorsport UK. **3.10** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.55** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 NFL: The American Football Show. (R) **7.00** Street Velodrome. **7.55** British GT. **8.30** Ironman 2014. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **3.00** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30 Film:** Star Trek: Insurrection. (1998) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Patrick Stewart. **5.30** Deal or No Deal.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Posh Pawn. Prestige Pawnbrokers boss James Constantinou and the team receive a visit from a former Chelsea footballer who has brought along some expensive watches. James is also put to the test when asked to evaluate a hovercraft from a Bond film, and an unusual painting of Saddam Hussein causes a stir in the office. (R)

8.00 Operation Maneater. New series. The Nile crocodile, the polar bear and the great white shark are three of the deadliest predators on Earth – and when they strike out at humans, it often leads to revenge attacks. In this series, vet Mark Evans tries to break the cycle of violence, and asks if technology could provide a way for us to peacefully co-exist with these creatures. His mission begins at Namibia's Chobe River, aka the crocodile attack capital of the world. With the help of experts Rom Whitaker and Dr Patrick Aust, Mark attempts a radical experiment designed to train the crocodiles to associate the sound of a bell with electric shocks.

9.00 Film: Safe House. (2012) Premiere. A CIA agent stationed in South Africa is sent to question a rogue operative, who has been arrested years after betraying the agency, only to be attacked by mercenaries hired to capture the fugitive. As they flee for their lives together, the interrogator has to contend with not only the enemies hunting them, but also the mind games of his prisoner. Thriller, with Denzel Washington.

11.15 Film: The Sixth Sense. (1999) A child psychologist takes on the case of a boy terrified by ghostly apparitions. M Night Shyamalan's supernatural thriller, with Bruce Willis and Haley Joel Osment.

1.10 American Football Live. **5.00** British GT. (R) **5.30** Simply Italian. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.55** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.05** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Wanda and the Alien. **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Access. (R) **10.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.55 Film:** Are We Done Yet? (2007) Comedy sequel, starring Ice Cube. **3.40 Film:** See Spot Run. (2001) Comedy, starring David Arquette. **5.35 Film:** Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs. (2009) Animated comedy, with the voice of Bill Hader.

7.15 5 News Weekend.

7.20 Film: Rush Hour 2. (2001) The two mismatched detectives travel to Hong Kong when terrorists bomb the US embassy, and are soon involved in keeping tabs on the prime suspects – high-ranking Triad members involved in an international counterfeiting ring. Action comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker, John Lone, Zhang Ziyi, Roselyn Sanchez and Harris Yulin. Edited for violence and language.

9.00 Film: In Time. (2011) Premiere. Future scientists reverse the ageing process, allowing people to live for ever. To avoid overpopulation, time becomes a currency, with the rich living indefinitely while the poor must toil to stave off death. A factory worker acquires 100 years of time, and spends it fighting to redress the balance of power. Sci-fi thriller, starring Justin Timberlake, Amanda Seyfried and Cillian Murphy.

11.10 Film: Elektra. (2005) An assassin has a crisis of conscience and decides to protect the father and daughter she was hired to kill. Comic-book adventure, starring Jennifer Garner and Goran Visnjic.

12.50 True Crimes: The First 72 Hours. **1.15** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Once Upon a Time. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Top Gear **8.00** Doctor Who **8.50** Great TV Mistakes **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Bad Education **11.15** Live at the Apollo **11.45** American Dad! **12.35** Comedy Fest Live 2014 **1.30** Bad Education **2.00** Russell Howard's Good News **3.00** Live at the Apollo **3.30** Bad Education

BBC Four

7.00 The John Moores Painting Prize with Alexei Sayle **7.30** Secret Knowledge: Hidden Jewels of the Cheapside Hoard **8.00** Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities **9.00** British Art at War: Bomberg, Sickert and Nash **10.00 Film:** Trishna (2011) **11.45** Big Hits: TOTP 1964 to 1975 **1.15** Quadrophenia – Can You See the Real Me? **2.25** British Art at War: Bomberg, Sickert and Nash **3.25** Close

ITV2

12.10 America's Got Talent **2.00** You've Been Framed! **2.30 Film:** Nanny McPhee (2005) **4.25** The X Factor **5.45** The Xtra Factor **6.50 Film:** Twins (1988) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** Bad Bridesmaid **11.00** The X Factor **12.05** The Xtra Factor **1.05** Two and a Half Men **1.30** The Big Reunion 2014 **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.40 Inspector Morse **1.50 Film:** Columbo: Identity Crisis (1975) **3.45 Film:** Carry On Screaming (1966) **5.50** Wycliffe **6.55** Lewis **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety **10.00 Film:** The Hours (2002) **12.15** William and Mary **2.10** Judge Judy **2.55** World Kitchen **3.20** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4

11.05 Police, Camera, Action! **12.05** I Want That Car **1.05** The Motorbike Show **2.05 Film:** For Whom the Bell Tolls (1943) **5.20 Film:** The Battle of Midway (1976) **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** Troy (2004) **12.15** Hell on Wheels **1.05** Breakout **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **4.30** Teleshopping

E4

12.30 Made in Chelsea NYC **1.35** How I Met Your Mother **2.00** Suburgatory **2.30** The Mindy Project **3.00** New Girl **3.30** The Big Bang Theory **4.30** The 100 **5.30** Rude(ish) Tube **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.30 Film:** Marley and Me (2008) **10.00** Almost Royal **10.30** The Big Bang Theory **11.00** Glue **12.00** Rules of Engagement **1.00** How I Met Your Mother **1.30** Rude Tube **2.30** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.25** Hollyoaks

Film4

11.00 The Enemy Below (1957) **1.00** Avatar (2009) **4.05** 20,000 Days on Earth Special **4.10** Lonely Are the Brave (1962) **6.20** Runaway Jury (2003) **8.50** 20,000 Days on Earth Special **9.00** A Time to Kill (1996) **11.55** Tyrannosaur (2011) **1.45** The King of Marvin Gardens (1972) **3.25** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Hollow Man, Channel 5, 11pm
A brilliant scientist tests an invisibility serum on himself, but becomes dangerously intoxicated by the power he acquires. He abandons his morals and heads out into the city to take full advantage of his condition. Realising he has been up to no good, concerned colleagues decide to confront him – with terrible consequences. Paul Verhoeven's sci-fi thriller, starring Kevin Bacon, Elisabeth Shue, Josh Brolin and Kim Dickens. (2000)

TUESDAY
State of Play, ITV, 10.40pm
A hard-nosed journalist investigating the murder of a congressman's intern discovers a connection between the tragedy and the death of a petty crook on the same evening. As he works to get to the bottom of the story, the reporter uncovers a political conspiracy that places him in a precarious and potentially life-threatening position. Thriller, starring Russell Crowe. (2009)

WEDNESDAY
Adam & Paul, Channel 4, 12.30am
Two childhood friends living in Dublin have grown up to be heroin addicts. During the course of a day, they wander the city, hoping to beg, borrow or steal enough cash to feed their habit – but their efforts only lead them into a series of bizarre misadventures. Comedy drama, starring Mark O'Halloran. (2004)

State of Play, Tuesday, ITV, 10.40pm

THURSDAY
Killer Instinct: From the Files of Agent Candice DeLong, Channel 5, 3.15pm
An FBI agent retires after 15 gruelling years to pursue a career in nursing. She is drawn back to the bureau after her best friend is raped by a man responsible for a series of murders. However, as she investigates the case, she and her son end up being stalked by the serial killer. Fact-based crime drama, starring Jean Smart and A Martinez. (2003)

FRIDAY
National Lampoon's Animal House, ITV, 11.10pm
A college's most slobbish and unruly student fraternity faces expulsion for upsetting the rigid social order of the campus, so its madcap members plan one final act of rebellion against the college dean and a preppy bunch of snobbish bullies at the annual university homecoming parade. Comedy, starring John Belushi. (1978)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Stars hope to shine bright as the competition begins

A couple of weeks ago, we got our first proper glimpse of the Strictly class of 2014 during the red-carpet launch show – and on the whole, it went pretty well.

No one fell down the stairs or out of their costumes, the celebs managed to get through the group dance without any major incidents, and if any of the professional dancers were disappointed with their matches, they hid it well (Iveta Lukosiute in particular seemed very happy to have landed former rugby player Thom Evans).

But as the competition launches in earnest this weekend, it's going to get a lot harder. Instead of being able to hide at the back during a group number, six of the couples will be taking to the floor tonight, with the rest competing on Saturday.

And this time, judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell will be scoring them.

It's going to be a whole new experience for MasterChef's Gregg Wallace, who is used to being the one dishing out the criticism.

He says: "The judges scare me because you are working really hard and they are the experts and they are there to scrutinise everything you do. It is in their professional interest to critique you properly and that is scary. If they don't pick up on something you do wrong then they lose credibility.

"On MasterChef I let people get away with things as long as they cover it in Chantilly cream!"

Meanwhile, DJ Scott Mills admits he has probably already given at least one judge a reason not to go easy on him. "I met Craig yesterday for the first time. He was on my show and we soaked him with water. So that's probably not going to do me any favours particularly!"

Luckily, Scott adds: "He was very encouraging and nice and told me I have to just do my best. I know on the show he can be quite mean but I guess that's his job – and yesterday I found him surprisingly pleasant!"

And although some people may think that facing the panel is one of the downsides of appearing on Strictly, for one of this year's intake, it was a genuine incentive. Presenter Caroline Flack says: "Ever since I was a presenter on CBBC and used to see the Strictly judges walking around Television Centre I have wanted to be on the show... and this year the time was right."

But will she still feel that way ahead of this weekend's shows? If she's nervous, she's probably in good company, as fellow contestants (deep breath) Pixie Lott, Jake Wood, Frankie Bridge, Simon Webbe, Alison Hammond, Steve Backshall, Sunetra Sarker, Mark Wright, Jennifer Gibney, Judy Murray and Tim Wonnacott are no doubt feeling the pressure too.

At least they've got presenters Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman to put them at ease – and the knowledge that the harshest judges of all, the viewing public, don't get to vote until next week.

Strictly Come Dancing, Friday, BBC1, 9pm

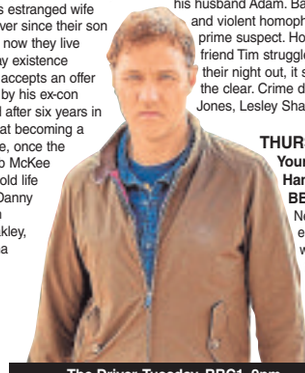
BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Cilla
ITV, 9pm
Reunited with Bobby, Cilla's confidence returns and she once again dazzles crowds with her vocal talents. The re-emergence of impresario Brian Epstein then propels her career to greater heights, but this is quickly followed by a new low when her first record fails to set the charts alight, despite being written by two local lads called John Lennon and Paul McCartney. Epstein suggests a change of direction, persuading the singer to take a gamble on the ballad Anyone Who Had a Heart, against her future husband's advice. Continuing Jeff Pope's three-part biopic charting Cilla Black's rise to fame in 1960s Liverpool, starring Sheridan Smith, with Aneurin Barnard and Ed Stoppard.

Traders: Millions by the Minute
BBC2, 9pm
The concluding programme meets a new breed of trader – the British men and women who play the financial markets online from their kitchens, sofas and bedrooms. Mother-of-three Jane squeezes currency trading in-between the school run and her work as a nurse, while Justyn and Akil are both convinced that trading will be their ticket to a lavish lifestyle. Rene gave up a successful career as an antiques dealer for a new existence as a trader, and is undeterred despite seven years of struggling to break even. Saskia Reeves narrates.

TUESDAY
The Driver
BBC1, 9pm
New series. Crime drama, starring David Morrissey. Taxi driver Vince McKee and his estranged wife Ros have blamed themselves ever since their son Tim cut ties with the family, and now they live separate lives. Vince's day-to-day existence takes an unusual turn when he accepts an offer from a criminal gang organised by his ex-con mate Colin, who has resurfaced after six years in prison. Although initially thrilled at becoming a driver for gang leader The Horse, once the criminals arrange their major job McKee soon wishes he could have his old life back. Written by Bafta-winning Danny Brocklehurst (Accused) and Jim Poyser, it also stars Claudie Blakley, Ian Hart, Shaun Dingwall, Sacha Parkinson and Colm Meaney.

WEDNESDAY
Scott & Bailey
ITV, 9pm
Rachel promised the chaos of her personal life was all in the past, but she is conflicted upon discovering her mother's new boyfriend is a violent domestic abuser. Meanwhile, Janet gets cold feet when she goes on her first date, terrified at the idea of having to sell herself to a stranger. The crimebusters are united in the search for the killer of Rich Hutchings, who is found murdered in the flat he shares with his husband Adam. Barry, their outspoken and violent homophobic neighbour, is the prime suspect. However, as Adam's friend Tim struggles to recall events of their night out, it seems Barry may be in the clear. Crime drama, starring Suranne Jones, Lesley Sharp and Danny Miller.


The Driver, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

THURSDAY
Your Home in Their Hands
BBC1, 8pm
New series. There's no end of homeowners who would happily hand over their houses to professional interior designers for a few days, as the success of shows such as 60 Minute Makeover attests. This new three-parter, though, comes with a twist: the so-called 'experts' are but amateurs themselves. In tonight's opener, Yvonne and Dan Lavery are the guinea pigs letting four budding Llewelyn-Bowens into their abode. They readily admit that they're behind the times, stuck in a decor timewarp since taking over Yvonne's parents' home. They've been reluctant to make any changes for fear of upsetting her folks, but are hoping the 'experts' can help to rip off the plaster and create something modern and exciting.

FRIDAY
The X Factor
ITV, 9pm
Simon Cowell's search for a star steps up a gear with the first of three weekend shows spotlighting the good, the bad and the downright awful singers and bands who think they have a shot at the big time. In the first of the weekend's triple bill of Boot Camps, the six chair challenge returns. Cowell, Louis Walsh, Mel B and Cheryl Fernandez-Versini must decide on the final six acts they will take to their Judge's House. However, nobody is safe in this game of musical chairs as each judge can change their mind and swap an act with someone already through with another who comes on and out-performs them. Host Dermot O'Leary oversees the wannabe contestants as they sing for their survival and a coveted place in the live shows

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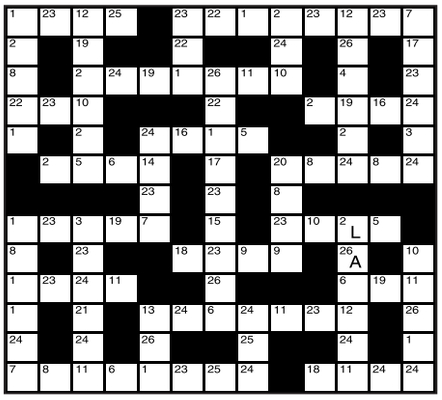

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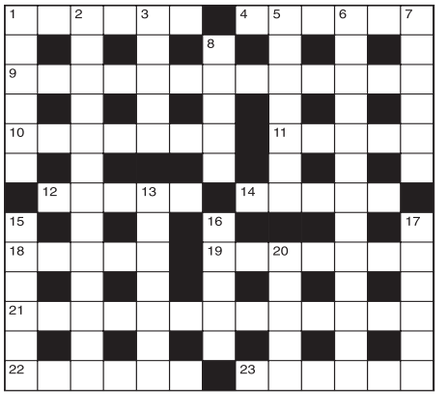
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
A	Y	V	R	T	Z	O	N	X	M	J	L	P
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
S	Q	B	C	D	G	F	W	K	I	H	E	U

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Nearly all going to rocky inlet for a recess (6)
4. Just the thing for disturbing a nap! (6)
9. Should poor orators take a course in this? (6,7)
10. Meanwhile the termini have been reconstructed (7)
11. The man behind this tree is in receipt of civic honours (5)
12. Over and above an unknown quantity in revised rate (5)
14. It may come from Bach or Dvorak (5)
18. To put in a confined space will produce muscular pain (5)
19. A prize that shows degeneration (7)
21. Slight upset in temperament (13)
22. Sailor to obtain what is aimed at (6)
23. Annul a law about the sound of bells (6)

Down

1. Take a sea-trip round the south to make an attack (6)
2. A device for increasing the volume of the strong-box? (5,8)
3. Motor required after six for the clerk (5)
5. I keep clean, by the sound of it, but that's humbug (3-4)
6. No unusual charge for a flag! (8,5)
7. Beds for hens (6)
8. Pole to make this sort of speech (5)
13. A sharp answer in the letter I posted (7)
15. Handwriting used by many an actor (6)
16. Stick used for beating (5)
17. Noted book used in the services (6)
20. Increase the level of the beams, we hear (5)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Gossip (6)
4. Save (6)
9. Gambling (6,1,6)
10. Sweet-sounding (7)
11. Arc (5)
12. Lever (5)
14. Quick (5)
18. Adhesive (5)
19. Initially (2,5)
21. Dismay (13)
22. Roof window (6)
23. Grating (6)

Down

1. Peevish (6)
2. Captured (5,8)
3. Lean and tall (5)
5. Moral (7)
6. Disputable (13)
7. Loophole (6)
8. Convenient (5)
13. Encase (7)
15. Seasoned (6)
16. Wed (5)
17. Attitude (6)
20. Discernment (5)

Sudoku

5			2			6		8
	8	7		6		3	4	
3					7			9
		5		8			6	
	1		7		6		2	
	2			9				
2						4		7
	3	9		2		1	8	
		8			1			3

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

4	1	3	9	8	7	2	6	5
9	6	8	3	2	5	1	7	4
2	7	5	6	1	4	8	3	9
6	8	9	7	5	1	3	4	2
3	4	2	8	9	6	7	5	1
1	5	7	4	3	2	6	9	8
8	9	1	5	6	3	4	2	7
7	2	6	1	4	9	5	8	3
5	3	4	2	7	8	9	1	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Put on one side; 7 Light; 8 Cover; 9 Air; 10 Increases; 11 Events; 12 Finish; 15 Israelite; 17 Kin; 18 Ellen; 19 Tried; 21 Show interest. Down: 1 Private lives; 2 Nag; 3 Notice; 4 Secretive; 5 Dives; 6 Press handout; 7 Large; 10 In the know; 13 Inked; 14 Listen; 16 Ralph; 20 Ice. QUICK - Across: 1 Praiseworthy; 7 Table; 8 Felon; 9 Urn; 10 Sacrilege; 11 Energy; 12 Unfair; 15 Obscenity; 17 Bag; 18 Sauna; 19 Might; 21 Investigator. Down: 1 Picture-house; 2 Sob; 3 Wrench; 4 Ruffianly; 5 Halve; 6 Interrogator; 7 Tense; 10 Segregate; 13 Ambit; 14 Kismet; 16 Spurn; 20 Gag.

Do you organise events?

Get your event listed on all the important sites and publications including The Guardian Guide, Time Out, The List and local press.

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Visit www.listora.me/2014 to list your next event.

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Rail inclusive breaks – Two or three days
Departures most weekends

Saturday Night Theatre from £149.95
Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing.

Theatre Showstopper from £209.95
This popular theatre package to the West End departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening.

Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade plus two nights stay at a four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply). Includes a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days
Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £139.95
Dine and Dance from £149.95
Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing.

For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and a disco (conditions apply). Or the Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options).

Pick-up points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

**The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability – supplements apply.*

Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X)

For a theatre brochure please call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

Superbly presented and a uniquely designed house

AN individually designed and very attractive four-bedroomed detached house in Dog Kennel Lane, Halesowen, has many luxury features.

It is for sale through Hicks Hadley at £334,950.

It has a hallway, WC, lounge with a superb feature inglenook fireplace with an oak beam over housing a living flame gas fire. There is an re-fitted open plan kitchen with a dining room off with white gloss units, contrasting wood-effect working surface, a ceramic hob with extractor canopy over, integrated oven, microwave, dishwasher and fridge and utility.

On the first floor are four bedrooms with the master having an imposing en suite shower room and bedroom two having an en suite toilet. There is also a luxury house bathroom. There is a double garage, block paved drive and private rear garden. Contact 01562 510440 or for more images visit www.hickshadley.com

Premier location for stunning home

A STUNNING period detached house in the premier address of Pagenel Drive, Dudley has been tastefully and sympathetically refurbished over the last few years to retain original features.

It is for sale through Billingham Taylor at £245,000. The accommodation comprises a porch, entrance hallway with solid wood flooring, bay-fronted dining room with double doors into a rear reception room , an extended breakfast kitchen, breakfast bar, a bay fronted bedroom to the front, two further bedrooms and a good sized re-fitted bathroom. There is a driveway and integral garage with an electronically operated door and superb mature gardens.

For details contact Billingham Taylor on 01384 234900 or visit the website www.billinghamtaylor.co.uk

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Waterloo Road, SMETHWICK,

● A rare opportunity to purchase a Commercial property on busy High Street location ● Double Fronted Shop ● Three Self Contained Flats ● Ideal Investment Opportunity!

Offers Around £250,000

Abbey Road, BEARWOOD,

●Well maintained semi detached ●Two Reception Rooms ●Fitted Kitchen ●Three Bedrooms ●Family Bathroom ●Driveway ●Great Location with views overlooking Warley Woods ●Keenly Priced!

Offers Around £169,950

Edgbaston Road, SMETHWICK,

● Spacious Family Home ● Three Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Utility Room ● Four Bedrooms ● Re-Fitted Bathroom ● Driveway ● Keenly Priced

Offers Around £169,000

Merrivale Road, BEARWOOD,

● Well Maintained Mid Terrace ● Two Reception Rooms ● Re-Fitted Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms ● Re-Fitted Upstairs Bathroom ● Ideal First Time Purchase ● Viewing Recommended!

Offers Around £124,950

Vicarage Road, SMETHWICK,

● Spacious Three Storey Terrace ● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen ● Three Bedrooms ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Ideal First Time Purchase

Offers Around £119,950

Broadmoor Avenue, SMETHWICK,

● Spacious Semi Detached ● Through Lounge ● Extended Kitchen ● Three Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom ● Ideal First Time Purchase

Offers Around £114,950

Rosefield Road, SMETHWICK,

● Well Maintained Mid Terrace ● Through Lounge ● Fitted Kitchen ● Re-Fitted Bathroom ● Three Bedrooms ● Ideal First Time Purchase ● Viewing Recommended

Offers Around £109,950

Tudor Road, OLDBURY,

●Refurbished Town House ●Through Lounge ●Re-Fitted Kitchen ●Three Bedrooms ●Re-Fitted Bathroom ●Driveway ●Ideal First Time Purchase/ Investment ●Viewing Recommended

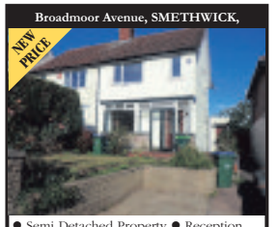
Offers Around £109,950

Park Hill Road, SMETHWICK,

● Mid Terrace Property ● Two Reception Rooms ● Re-Fitted Kitchen ● Re-Fitted Bathroom ● Lean-to ● Three Bedrooms ● Ideal Investment/First Time Purchase ● No Upward Chain

Offers Around £104,950

Broadmoor Avenue, SMETHWICK,



● Semi Detached Property ● Reception Room ● Re-Fitted Kitchen ● Lean -to ●Three Bedrooms ● Re-Fitted Upstairs Bathroom ● Driveway ● No Upward Chain

Offers Over £100,000

Montague Road, SMETHWICK,

● Mid Town House ● Reception Room ● Kitchen/Diner ● Two Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom ● Driveway ● No Upward Chain

Offers Around £98,000

Brixham Road, EDGBASTON,

● Mid Terrace ● Two Reception Rooms ● Kitchen ● Two bedrooms ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Ideal Investment Opportunity ● No Upward Chain

Offers Around £84,950

Offices at:
12 Abbey Road, Bearwood, B67 5RD 33-35 Cape Hill, Smethwick, B66 4RX

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Home has neat extended dining room and kitchen

A THREE-BEDROOMED semi-detached property in Cotwall End Road, Gornal has an extended dining room/sitting room and kitchen. It is for sale through Bakers Estate Agents at £169,950.

With central heating and double glazing, it has a block paved drive and garage, entrance hall with laminate flooring, lounge with patio doors to the dining room/sitting room, a kitchen/diner with Belfast sink, oven, overhead extractor hood, integrated dish washer, glazed ceramic wall tiling, ceramic tiled floor and spot lighting, three bedrooms (two with wardrobes), a bathroom and garden. For further information contact Bakers Estate Agents on 01384 252527 or visit www.bakersproperty.co.uk

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Drive way parking and rear garden.

Scott Street £675 p.c.m

TIVIDALE

Fully refurbished to a high standard, we are offering this semi-detached house in a much sort after location. Accomodation comprises, entrance hall, lounge with bay window, open plan kitchen and diner, 2 double bedrooms, garden at rear. Front driveway and side access. Must be viewed. No upward Chain.

Elm Terrace £119.950

TIPTON

We are pleased to offer this spacious apartment close to local ammenities. Accomodation comprises communal ent hall, fully fitted kitchen to include various appliances, lounge area with feature fireplace, 2 good sized bedrooms and bathroom with electric shower over bath. Economy 7 heating throughout. Off road parking.

Bedford Street £74,500

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Room Only to let in large well presented house, own private bathroom and shared kitchen facilities with owner. Must be dog friendly. Rental to include all bills.

Coles Lane, Hill top £350.00 p.c.m

SMETHWICK

NEW

Accomodation comprises entrance hall, dining room/sitting room, kitchen,3 beds, family bathroom, off road parking, side access, garden to rear. Double glazed.

Manor Road £575.00 p.c.m

TIPTON

NEW

Well presented ground floor flat comprises ent. hall, living room with feature gas fire, kitchen, bathroom, double bedroom, front and side garden, allocated parking.

Harrowby Drive £45,950

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Westmead Drive, Oldbury
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- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Self Contained Rear Annexe
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two Fitted Kitchens
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Shower Rooms
- Rear Court Yard
- Double Garage With Concrete Print Driveway

Offers In The Region Of £364,950

NEW

Causeway Green Road, Oldbury
Refurbished Spacious Traditional Style Terrace, Excellent Order Throughout, Walking Distance To Local Amenities. EPC - E
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- New Fitted Kitchen
- New Fitted Ground Floor Bathroom
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Viewing Essential

TO LET £525 PCM

NEW

Ashwood Close, Oldbury
Impressive Well Presented Second Floor Modern Style Flat, Popular Residential Development, Viewing Essential. EPC - C
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Spacious Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Double Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Off Road Parking

TO LET: £450 PCM

Wyckham Close, Harborne
Impressive Well Presented Traditional Style Semi, Situated Within This Popular & Sought After Harborne Cul-De-Sac, Viewing Absolutely Essential. EPC - E
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Spacious Through Lounge/Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Private Secluded Rear Garden, Garage & Driveway
- Easy Access To Harborne & Harborne Golf Course

Offers In The Region Of £250,000

NEW PRICE

Perry Hill Road, Oldbury
Superb Traditional Style Semi, Situated Within This Most Popular Residential Location, Easy Access To Local Schools. EPC - E
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Separate Front Lounge
- Open Plan Dining Area With Open Plan Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Plus Useful Loft
- Rear Garden, Driveway

Offers In The Region Of £179,950

Birch Walk, Oldbury
Deceptively Spacious Modern Style Semi, Most Popular Residential Cul-De-Sac, No Upward Chain. EPC - TBC
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Spacious Lounge
- Separate Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room
- Downstairs W/C & Shower Cubicle
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Separate W/C
- Workshop, Carport, Block Paved Driveway

Offers In The Region Of £164,995

Queens Road, Smethwick
Superbly Appointed Modern Style Detached Bungalow, In Excellent Order Throughout, Walking Distance To Local Amenities. EPC - C
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Spacious Lounge
- Fitted Dining Kitchen With Appliances
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Pleasant Well Tended Gardens
- Viewing Highly Recommended

Offers In The Region Of £164,950

Oldacre Road, Oldbury
Well Presented Traditional Style Terrace, Walking Distance To Good Local Schools, Easy Access To Local Amenities, Ideal First Time Purchase. EPC - C
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge
- Fitted Dining Kitchen
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Separate W/C
- Front & Rear Gardens

Offers In The Region Of £105,000

Regis House, Cradley Heath
Situated Within "Regis House" Extremely Spacious Well Presented First Floor Flat, Walking Distance To All Local Amenities. EPC - C.
- Gas Central Heating
- Spacious Lounge
- Fitted Dining Kitchen With Cooker, Fridge/Freezer
- Double Bedroom
- Bathroom With Shower
- Secure Off Road Parking
- Viewing Recommended

TO LET: £365 PCM

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A well-presented two-bedroomed unfurnished home available for rent

A WELL-PRESENTED unfurnished two-bedroomed home situated in York Road, Dudley features a lovely modern fitted kitchen with all the latest sought-after facilities and designs.

The semi-detached property is available to rent through Trinity Property at a cost of £525 per calendar month.

With central heating and double glazing throughout, the accommodation briefly comprises a lounge with wood-effect flooring, there is also a kitchen with an oven and hob, along with cream gloss storage cupboards and contrasting working surfaces and also having wood-effect flooring.

There are two bedrooms, a smart bathroom with a walk-in shower, and outside there is an attractive, low maintenance rear garden with a enclosed play area to the side.

No pets or DSS.

For further information contact Trinity Property on 01384 213395 or visit www.trinityproperty.net

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EPC: C
Tipton
Anita Avenue
- Two bed semi
- Bathroom with bath and shower
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Energy Rating - C
£575pcm

EPC: D
Tipton
Downes Court
- Two bed terraced house
- Unfurnished
- Hall with laminate flooring
- Large fitted kitchen with gas hob and electric oven
- Rear garden
£495pcm

EPC: B
Tipton
Gough Drive
- One bed ground floor apartment
- Fully fitted kitchen with appliances
- Bedroom with fitted wardrobes
- Fitted bath and shower
£425pcm

EPC: E
Great Bridge
Market Place
- Spacious one bed flat
- Fitted kitchen with appliances
- Fitted bathroom
- Close to motorway network
- Gas central heated
- Available immediately
£350pcm

EPC: G
Sedgley
Bilston Street
- Spacious one bed first floor maisonette
- Luxurious bathroom with shower
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Spacious lounge
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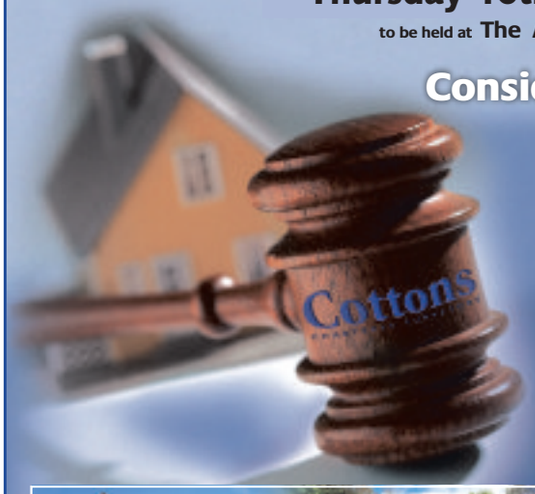

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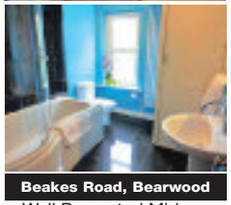


Beakes Road, Bearwood
- Well Presented Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Superb Bathroom
- Ideal 1st Purchase
- EP Rating E

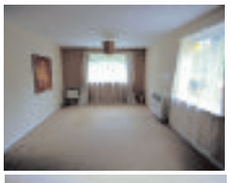
Offers in the region of £127,950

NEW PRICE

Thimblemill Road, Bearwood
- Much Improved Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Delightful Kitchen
- Well Appointed Bathroom
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £114,950

NEW PRICE



Cardinal Close, Edgbaston
- Ground Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge & Kitchen
- Allocated Parking
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating C

Offers in the region of £112,000

NEW

Lincoln Road, Smethwick
- A Most Attractive End Terrace
- Superb Modern Kitchen
- A Tasteful Lounge
- Stunning Rear Garden
- Three Bedrooms
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £134,950

NEW

Ridgacre Road, Quinton
- Well Presented Semi
- Ideal First Purchase
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Through Lounge
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £139,950

Drayton Road, Bearwood
- Attractive Mid Terrace
- Residents Parking
- Two Double Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Two Reception Rooms
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £130,000

Abbey Crescent, Oldbury

- A Well Presented Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- An Extended Kitchen
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £149,950

Harborne Park Road, Harborne

- An Attractive Traditional Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Period Features
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £169,950

Merrivale Road, Bearwood

- Tastefully Presented Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Attractive Modern Kitchen
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £124,950

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- Gas centrally heated and fully PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and W.C to the first floor
- Two reception rooms and fitted kitchen
- Downstairs bathroom
- Providing ideal family accommodation.
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £144,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

31 VALLEY ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac in Smethwick (off the main Valley Road)
- End town house, centrally heated and PVC double glazed throughout.
- Gardens to the front and rear.
- Three bedrooms and bathroom to the first floor.
- Hall, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, downstairs cloakroom.
- Providing ideal opportunity for first time buyers of families.
- In close proximity to both Bearwood and Smethwick town centres.
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £129,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

DOES YOUR PROPERTY NEED RENOVATION, REPAIR OR UPGRADING?

Do you need an immediate exchange of contracts, early completion and the best open market price?

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NEXT SALE

MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2014

9 CASTLE CROFT, OLDBURY

- Link detached property in quiet cul-de-sac
- Gas centrally heated
- Virtually PVC double glazed throughout
- Four bedrooms and bathroom
- Hall, spacious lounge and dining room
- Kitchen, utility and conservatory
- Downstairs W.C.
- Side garage
- Neatly laid out garden
- Off-street parking for two/three cars
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE

OFFERS BASED £295,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

59 WARLEY HALL ROAD, OLDBURY

- A beautifully presented freehold semi-detached property.
- Located in Bearwood and in close proximity to Warley Woods.
- Being gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed.
- Three bedrooms and bathroom to the first floor.
- Hall, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, downstairs cloakroom, conservatory, garden to the rear and having the benefit of off-street parking.
- With internal inspection a must.
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £149,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

15 HARBORNE ROAD, OLDBURY

- Freehold end terraced property, located close to Warley Woods and the Main Hagley Road West.
- Being gas centrally heated & fully PVC double glazed
- Lounge, superbly presented refitted kitchen/breakfast room, three bedrooms, superbly appointed refitted bathroom with individual shower compartment, garage and enclosed rear yard
- INTERNAL INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING: F

OFFERS BASED ON £219,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

14 JAMES CLOSE, SMETHWICK

- Well presented freehold end terraced property
- Fully gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom to first floor
- Hallway, kitchen/ Breakfast room, spacious lounge, and enclosed rear yard
- Located close to Smethwick High Street
- Easy access to Birmingham City Centre
- Ideally suited for FTBs
- Allocated parking to the front
- ENERGY

OFFERS BASED ON £109,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

214 PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Superbly presented mid-terraced property
- Easy reach Warley Woods and Lightwoods Park
- PVC double glazed & gas centrally heated
- FOUR BEDROOMS and fully tiled shower room
- Superbly presented & refitted kitchen with integrated appliances
- Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- INTERNAL INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £209,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

8 WESTON ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Gas centrally heated
- Mostly double glazed
- Two double bedrooms & occasional bedroom 3/leisure room
- Impressive fully fitted split level bathroom
- Hall, sitting room and dining room
- Kitchen, laundry & downstairs W.C.
- Gardens front and rear
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £149,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

1 FERNDALE ROAD, OLDBURY

- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and fully tiled bathroom
- Through lounge/dining room and kitchen
- Verandah and fully tiled downstairs cloakroom
- Off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £124,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

42 WOODHOUSE ROAD, QUINTON

- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms & fully tiled bathroom
- Spacious lounge & Kitchen/breakfast room
- Conservatory
- Off-street parking
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £125,000

Viewings Bearwood Office

373 TITFORD ROAD, OLDBURY

- First floor flat
- Good motorway links
- Easy access to Birmingham city centre
- PVC double glazed throughout
- Storage heaters throughout
- Two bedrooms & bathroom
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Allocated parking
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : B

OFFERS BASED ON £92,500

Viewings Bearwood Office

1 WATTIS ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Pleasant cul-de-sac
- End terraced villa
- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £119,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

36 ALEXANDER ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Spacious lounge & kitchen/breakfast room
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £112,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

3 HALES CRESCENT, SMETHWICK

- Quiet cul-de-sac location
- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and fully tiled bathroom
- Through lounge/dining room and kitchen
- Off-street parking for two cars
- AN IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £142,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

30 HAROLD ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Easy reach Bearwood & Smethwick town centres
- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Lounge and open plan dining/kitchen
- Downstairs W.C.
- Delightful spacious garden
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £112,500

Viewings Bearwood Office

15 PERRY COURT, OLDBURY

- Ground floor warden controlled flat
- Electric storage heating
- Double glazing
- Spacious lounge and kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Allocated parking and communal gardens
- Designated for over 60s (55+ with a disability)
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £55,000

Viewings Bearwood Office

79 SABELL ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Located close to Smethwick High Street
- Freehold mid-terraced property
- Centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two bedrooms and bathroom
- Lounge, Fitted kitchen/Dining room and Utility
- Ideal for first time buyers.
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £97,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

242 DUDLEY ROAD, WINSON GREEN

- Gas central heating
- Three bedrooms & storage room
- Family bathroom
- Downstairs shower room
- Ideal family hom
- EPC : D

OFFERS BASED ON 114,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

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Derek Spires Estate Agents
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Bearwood. B66 4BW

31 PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Close to Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods
- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two bedrooms and bathroom
- Through lounge/dining room, kitchen & verandah
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £139,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

24 SHERWOOD ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Freehold mid terraced property, located in Bearwood close to the main high street.
- Being fully PVC double glazed, electric storage heaters (where specified).
- Three bedrooms and bathroom to the first floor.
- Hallway, two reception rooms, morning room, conservatory, downstairs cloakroom and gardens to the rear.
- Providing easy access to Birmingham City Centre but being in need of cosmetic improvement.
- ENERGY RATING : F

OFFERS BASED ON £149,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

12 HALLEWELL ROAD, EDGBASTON

- Beautifully improved substantial family residence
- Sympathetically modernised to an exacting specification
- Gas central heating, double glazing and burglar alarm
- SOLAR PANEL HEATING
- Extremely spacious with many original features
- FIVE BEDROOMS
- Expensively equipped re-fitted and fully tiled bathroom
- Lounge & separate dining room – both with feature fireplaces
- 23ft+ dining/kitchen
- Morning/sitting room
- Laundry/WC
- Established gardens
- Pleasant tree-lined residential thoroughfare
- INSPECTION

OFFERS BASED ON £299,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

3 REAR OF 31 EVA ROAD, WINSON

- Pedestrian walkway off Eva Road
- Easy access Birmingham city centre
- Centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two bedrooms & fully tiled bathroom
- Lounge and kitchen/ breakfast room
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £79,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

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Call today to arrange your free market appraisal

Connells

Bearwood 122 Poplar Rd Bearwood B66 4AP

Westbury Road Birmingham £105,950

A mid-terraced property in a popular residential location with gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: entrance lobby, through lounge/dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and gardens to rear. EPC: D

Mansion Crescent Smethwick £134,950

An end terraced property in a popular location with gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: entrance lobby, lounge, kitchen, cloakroom, three bedrooms, bathroom, off-road parking and gardens to front and rear. EPC: D

Edgbaston Road Smethwick £169,000

A SPACIOUS period mid terraced property in a popular residential location, with gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: lounge, dining room, kitchen, third reception room, utility room, cellar, four bedrooms and bathroom, gardens to rear. EPC: E

Parkhill Road Smethwick £105,000

A mid terraced property comprising of gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, upstairs family bathroom and gardens to rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: D

Jacmar Crescent Smethwick £102,500

A traditional semi-detached property in need of modernisation, has double glazing where specified and comprises of: entrance porch, entrance hall, lounge, separate dining room, kitchen area, utility passage, conservatory, three bedrooms, bathroom and separate toilet. EPC: E

St Augustines Road Birmingham £130,000

A second storey apartment overlooking St Augustine's Church having double glazing and central heating where specified and comprising: entrance hall, open plan lounge/kitchen, two bedrooms, shower room and master en-suite. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: C

PUBLIC NOTICE

Connells are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £225,000 for 3 Fallow Way, Birmingham, B16 0PY. Anyone wishing to place an offer on this property should contact Connells, 122 Poplar Road, Bearwood, B66 4AP before exchange of contracts.

Draycott Road Smethwick £95,000

A two bedroom mid-terraced property - IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY OR INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY with gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and gardens to rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: D

Brewers Square Birmingham £182,500

A modern three storey mid-townhouse property with gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, master en-suite, family bathroom, off-road parking and garden to rear. EPC: B

Hill Top Road Oldbury £174,950

AN EXCEPTIONAL traditional bay fronted semi-detached property, having gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: entrance porch, entrance hall, lounge, sunroom, kitchen, shower room, three bedrooms, bathroom, part converted loft, gardens and double garage. EPC: D

Rosefield Road Smethwick £99,950

A mid terraced property having gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, off-road parking and gardens to rear. EPC: E

Connells

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this could be a sign of what's to come

Wednesbury 22 Springhead Wednesbury WS10 9AD

Wood Green Road Wednesbury £250,000

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Pattern Gardens Wednesbury Prices

SHOW HOME NOW OPEN !! CALL US NOW ON 0121 556 2338 to arrange a viewing. Pattern Gardens is a fantastic development of two, three and four bedroom energy efficient homes available on SHARED OWNERSHIP and HELP TO BUY.

Woden Road West Wednesbury £325,000

RANGE ROVER EVOQUE INCLUDED ! A most impressive newly built five bedroom executive detached property briefly comprising lounge, dining room, fitted breakfast kitchen,bathroom and shower room, en-suite to master bedroom, enclosed rear garden and garage. EPC Rating TBA.

Gregory Close Wednesbury £135,000

A well presented two bedroom detached bungalow comprising of, uPVC double glazing and gas central heating (as specified) lounge, kitchen, bathroom, enclosed rear garden and allocated parking. EPC Rating E.

Oakeswell Street Wednesbury £110,000

A well presented two bedroom mid-terrace briefly comprising of, uPVC double glazing and part gas central heating (as specified) two reception rooms, kitchen, ground floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating D.

Stonehouse Crescent Wednesbury £110,000

A fantastic opportunity to purchase this three bedroom semi-detached property briefly comprising of, uPVC double glazing and gas central heating (as specified) reception hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner, conservatory, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden, drive-way providing off road parking. EPC Rating E.

Wiley Avenue Wednesbury £104,500

Viewing advised to appreciate this very well presented two bedroom semi-detached property comprising of, two reception rooms, lounge with dining area, extended kitchen, ground floor WC, family bathroom, off road parking, mature rear garden, central heating and double glazing (as specified). EPC rating TBA

Corporation Street Wednesbury £120,000

A beautifully presented and deceptively spacious traditional style three bedroom mid-terrace property briefly comprising of, uPVC double glazing and gas central heating (as specified) through lounge with dining area, fitted kitchen, first floor family bathroom, loft conversion (bedroom 3) enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating D.

The Furlong Wednesbury £120,000

VIEWING ESSENTIAL on this well presented modern style three bedroom end townhouse briefly comprising uPVC double glazing and central heating (as specified), reception hall, guest cloakroom, fitted kitchen, lounge, conservatory, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden and off road parking to the rear. EPC Rating C.

Lime Road Wednesbury £115,000

Benefiting from No Upward Chain, a three bedroom semi detached property briefly comprising, uPVC double glazing and gas central heating (as specified), lounge, fitted kitchen, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden and off road parking. EPC rating TBA.

Foley Street Wednesbury £80,000

A traditional three bedroom mid-terrace property benefiting from no upward chain briefly comprising of, double glazing and gas central heating (as specified) two reception rooms, kitchen, (bedroom 3) enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating E.

Oldbury 70/76 Birmingham Street Birmingham B69 4EB

Bhullar Way Oldbury £164,950

EPC RATING C - A well presented MODERN semi detached property comprising: entrance hall, lounge, utility area, dining kitchen, downstairs WC, Master bedroom with EN-SUITE, two further good sized bedrooms, bathroom, driveway providing off road parking, single garage and a pleasant rear garden.

Queens Drive Rowley Regis £159,000

EPC RATING D - Connells are pleased to present this exceptionally well maintained three bed detached property comprising of lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, off road parking, garage and rear garden. Double glazing and gas central heating where specified. INTERNAL INSPECTION HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

Law Close Tividale £145,000

EPC RATING AWAITED - An extended detached property in CUL-DE-SAC location with off road parking. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

Francis Road Smethwick £137,500

EPC RATING AWAITED - A semi detached property comprising of lounge, kitchen, three first floor bedrooms, bathroom, rear garden and off road parking. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

Bristnall Hall Road Oldbury £115,000

EPC RATING AWAITED - An excellent opportunity to purchase a family home IN NEED OF MODERNISATION that comprises of two reception rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, off road parking and rear garden.

Romsley Road Oldbury £114,995

EPC RATING D - An extended semi detached property comprising of two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, ground floor bathroom, three bedrooms (one with dressing room), garage, rear garden and NO UPWARD CHAIN. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

Holly Lane Smethwick £100,000

EPC RATING AWAITED - A mid terraced property comprising of two reception rooms, kitchen, two first floor bedrooms, bathroom and rear garden. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

Harvington Walk Rowley Regis £95,000

EPC RATING AWAITED - A mid terraced property with lounge, kitchen, ground floor wet room, three first floor bedrooms, upstairs bathroom and off road parking to rear. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

Oakthorpe Gardens Tividale £83,000

EPC RATING D - A two bedroom GROUND FLOOR flat recently redecorated and finished to a good standard and comprises of entrance hall, lounge with feature fireplace, fitted kitchen, two good sized bedrooms, bathroom and an extensive and well maintained rear garden with access to garage. ●●NO UPWARD CHAIN●●

Walford Street Tividale £70,000

EPC RATING AWAITED - A mid terraced property comprising of two reception rooms, kitchen, two first floor bedrooms, bathroom and rear garden. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

Church Street Oldbury From

EPC Rating D - A recently CONVERTED traditional property developed into six apartments finished to a very high standard with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Viewing is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to appreciate the fine finish to these quality apartments. Close to Oldbury Town Centre and local transport links ideal for commuters.

West Bromwich 3 Astle Park West Bromwich B70 8NS

Witton Lane West Bromwich £117,000

A well presented traditional 2 bedroom semi detached property with a modern feel, located in the Hill Top area of West Bromwich, offering lounge,kitchen/diner, conservatory,-double glazing, central heating (where specified), rear garden. EPC RATING D

Bustleholme Lane West Bromwich £150,000

A traditional 3 bedroom semi detached property,offering 2 reception rooms,-fitted kitchen,family bathroom,off road parking, central heating, double glazing (where specified),NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING E

Adams Street West Bromwich £98,000

A 3 bedroom end terrace property,offering part double glazing,central heating (where specified),lounge,kitchen, downstairs bathroom,front and rear gardens and NO UPWARD CHAIN EPC RATING D

Young Street West Bromwich £95,000

A 3 bedroom mid terrace property briefly comprising of central heating,-double glazing, lounge (where specified),kitchen, downstairs bathroom, off road parking,enclosed rear garden, .●●● NO UPWARD CHAIN ●●● EPC RATING D

Mountbatten Close West Bromwich £70,000

A beautifully presented and well maintained modern 1 bedroom ground floor flat located close to West Bromwich town centre, offering lounge, kitchen,bathroom,double glazing,central heating (where specified) parking,communal gardens and NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING C

Stanley Road West Bromwich £124,950

A traditional 3 bedroom semi detached property close to local amenities and Sandwell Hospital, offering double glazing central heating (where specified),2 reception rooms,kitchen,bathroom,-conservatory, off road parking EPC RATING E

Camberley Rise West Bromwich £80,000

A modern 2 bedroom semi detached property located close to local shops and public transport,offering open plan lounge and kitchen,family bathroom,guest cloakroom,double glazing-,central heating (where specified),off road parking rear garden. ●●●NO UPWARD CHAIN●●● EPC RATING B

Heath Lane West Bromwich £189,950

A beautifully presented recently refurbished 5 bedroom semi detached property,offering 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom,double glazing, central heating (where specified), rear garden and NO UPWARD CHAIN EPC Rating F

Tame Street West Bromwich £134,950

A modern 3 bedroom semi detached property,briefly comprising of downstairs cloakroom,kitchen,garage,through lounge,ensuite to master bedroom,family bathroom,central heating and double glazing (where specified), off road parking, garage. EPC RATING C

Church Vale Mews West Bromwich £105,000

Conveniently located for Sandwell Hospital and West Bromwich Town Centre, this modern style 3 bedroom mid terrace property offering part double glazing, central heating (where specified),lounge, kitchen/diner, first floor bathroom, allocated parking to the rear. ●●● NO UPWARD CHAIN ●●● EPC RATING D

0121 420 3611 bearwood@connells.co.uk | 0121 552 2671 oldbury@connells.co.uk
0121 556 2338 wednesbury@connells.co.uk | 0121 525 1177 westbromwich@connells.co.uk

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NEW PRICE

EPC:D

WEST BROMWICH
FRANCIS WARD CLOSE

- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- THREE BEDROOMS)
- LOUNGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- DINING AREA
- HOUSE BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £149,995

MANAGERS SPECIAL
NEW

EPC:D

TIPTON
OAKLEY AVENUE

- SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN DINER
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- CAR PORT

OFFERS AROUND: £124,950

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK
NEW

EPC:D

TIPTON
BATMANSHILL ROAD

- SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- DINING AREA
- GROUND FLOOR BATHROOM
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS
- OFF ROAD PARKING

OFFERS BASED ON: £119,995

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NEW PRICE — EPC: D

TIPTON
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- SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- MODERN KITCHEN
- REAR GARDEN
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY
- IN NEED OF MODERNISATION
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

OFFERS AROUND: £104,995

NEW PRICE — EPC:C

TIPTON
CORY CROFT

- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING

OFFERS AROUND £127,500

EPC:B

TIPTON
WILLIAM BARROWS WAY

- MODERN SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN/DINER
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C
- EN-SUITE
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £159,995

EPC:D

TIPTON
MYRTLE TERRACE

- LINK DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £174,995

EPC:D

OLDBURY
THE LENCHES

- DETACHED HOME
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- ENSUITE MASTER BEDROOM
- GARAGE & OFF ROAD PARKING
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS

OFFERS AROUND: £184,995

EPC:C

TIPTON
HEMPOLE LANE

- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- MODERN
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS

OFFERS AROUND: £109,995

NEW — EPC: D

TIPTON
SHRUBBERY AVENUE

- MID TERRACED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS

OFFERS AROUND: £89,995

EPC:D

TIPTON
NEWCOMEN DRIVE

- A MODERN MID TERRACE HOME
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE & DINING KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- CONSERVATORY
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £124,995

NEW — EPC: C

TIPTON
MONINS AVENUE

- Semi Detached Town House
- Four Bedrooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility Room
- Upstairs Family Bathroom
- En-suite To Master
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

OFFERS AROUND: £149,950

EPC: C

TIPTON
BEAUMONT CLOSE

- END TERRACE
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- DINING KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £99,995

EPC:C

TIPTON
CATHERTON CLOSE

- SEMI DETACHED
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING

OFFERS AROUND: £109,995

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EPC: C

TIPTON
PUDDLERS DRIVE

- MODERN DETACHED
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C
- EN-SUITE TO MASTER
- GARAGE & OFF ROAD PARKING
- FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

OFFERS AROUND: £227,500

EPC:C

TIPTON
FERGUSON DRIVE

- MODERN END TERRACED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £128,500

EPC:C

TIPTON
MELSTOCK CLOSE

- EXTENDED SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- GARAGE
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY
- REAR GARDEN

OFFERS AROUND: £134,995

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MIDLANDS ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR 2013 — THE SUNDAY TIMES
MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2014 — THE SUNDAY TIMES

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- Detached
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Offers in Excess of £300,000

Whitgreave Street West Bromwich

- Four Bedrooms
- Heavily Extended
- Detached
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- Large Rear Conservatory
- Four Reception Rooms
- En-Suite
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Viewing Advised

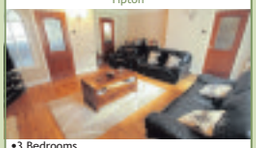
Asking price of £275,995

Brookfield Way Tipton

- DETACHED PROPERTY
- AMPLY OFF ROAD PARKING
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- REAR GARDEN

£189,995

Thetford Close Tipton



- 3 Bedrooms
- Detached
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Kitchen / Diner
- Conservatory

Offers in Excess of £180,000

Brookfield Way Tipton

- DETACHED PROPERTY
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C.
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- FRONT AND REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- GARAGE
- MUST VIEW!!!

Offers in Excess of £175,000

Woden Road East West Midlands

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- FULLY REFURBISHED
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner

£150,000

Old Park Road Dudley

- 3 Bedrooms
- Detached
- Conservatory
- Loft Room
- Hallway / Landing
- Off Road Car Parking
- Kitchen / Diner
- No Upward Chain.
- Attic Room
- Viewing Advised

Offers in Excess of £140,000

Jonah Drive Tipton

- EX SHOWHOME
- Three Storey
- Three Bedroom
- Lounge
- Family Kitchen/Diner

Offers in Excess of £140,000

Hall Green Road West Bromwich

- TERRACED PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- KITCHEN

£140,000

Melstock Close Tipton

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Porch

£139,995

£250 in your pocket*

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* Terms and Conditions Apply

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Broadwaters Road Wednesbury

- Semi - Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing

£139,950

Damson Wharf Tipton

- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom

£127,950

Cherry Lane Wednesbury

- Living room
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Off road parking
- Two Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- Well Presented
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Viewing Advised

£127,000

Horseley Heath Tipton

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom

Asking price of £125,000

Romulus Close Birmingham

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom

Guide Price £124,999

Lynton Avenue West Bromwich

- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Off road parking
- two reception rooms
- downstairs wet-room

£124,500

Wills Avenue West Bromwich

- END TERRACED PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- ONE RECEPTION ROOM
- GARAGE
- FAMILY BATHROOM

£120,000

Tame Street West Bromwich

- Mid Terrace House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Downstairs WC
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Private Parking
- Rear Garden
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

Offers in excess of £120,000

Durham Road Wednesbury

- Extended Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Wetroom

Offers in Excess of £120,000

Upper Church Lane Tipton

- Three Bedroom House
- Semi Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Detached Garage
- Fully Fitted Kitchen

£117,000

Cobham Road Wednesbury

- SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- ONE RECEPTION ROOM
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- KITCHEN/DINER
- CONSERVATORY
- VIEWING ADVISED

£115,000

Cornwall Close Wednesbury

- SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- ONE RECEPTION ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- VIEWING ADVISED

£115,000

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Cobham Road
Wednesbury

•SEMI DETACHED
•THREE BEDROOMS
•ONE RECEPTION ROOM
•FAMILY BATHROOM
•DOUBLE GLAZING
•GAS CENTRAL HEATING
•OFF ROAD PARKING
•KITCHEN/DINER
•CONSERVATORY
•VIEWING ADVISED

£115,000

St Helens Avenue
Tipton

•Three Bedroom House
•Semi Detached
•Lounge/Diner
•Fully Fitted Kitchen
•Downstairs WC
•Garage
•Off Road Parking
•Front and Rear Gardens
•Well Presented
•Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

£115,000

Rowland Hill Drive
Tipton

•Two Bedroom Town House
•Mid Terrace
•Ideal For First Time Buyers
•Lounge
•Kitchen
•Off Road Parking
•RearGarden
•Gas Central Heating
•Ideal For Investors
•Doubel Glazing

Asking price of £110,000

Coles Lane
West Bromwich

•Semi Detached House
•Three Bedrooms
•Lounge/Diner
•Extended Kitchen
•Utility

Offers in Excess of £110,000

Beech Road
Wednesbury

•Three Bedroom
•Semi Detached
•Lounge
•Fully Fitted Kitchen
•Family Bathroom
•Double Glazing
•Gas Central Heating
•Ensuite in Master Bedroom
•Ideal For First Time Buyers
•Viewing Advised

Offers in Excess of £110,000

Coles Lane
West Bromwich

•Two Bedrooms
•Semi Detached
•Kitchen
•Downstairs W/C
•Gas Central heating
•Double Glazing
•Rear Garden Enclosed
•Living Room
•Ideal For First Time Buyers
•Viewing Advised

Offers in the Region Of £108,000

Howard Street
Tipton

•Semi Detached Bungalow
•Two Double Bedrooms
•Spacious Lounge
•Shower Room
•Re-Styled Kitchen

£104,995

St Georges Close
Wednesbury

•Mid Terrace House
•Three Bedrooms
•Fully Fitted Kitchen
•Bathroom
•Double Glazing
•Front and Rear Garden
•Conservatory
•Off Road Parking
•Ideal For First Time Buyers
•Viewing Advised

Offers in Excess of £99,950

Toll End Road
Tipton

•Mid Terraced
•Three Bedrooms
•Double Glazing
•Well Presented
•Two Reception Rooms
•Gas Central Heating
•Rear Garden
•Downstairs W/C
•ViewingAdvised
•Well Located

£99,950

Stanley Road
Wednesbury

•2 Bedrooms
•Semi Detached
•Kitchen / Diner
•Potential for Off Road Parking
•Upstairs Bathroom
•Cul - De - Sac Location
•Front & Rear Gardens
•NO UPWARD CHAIN
•Well Maintained
•Viewing Advised

Offers in the Region Of £95,000

Oak Lane
West Bromwich

•Terraced House
•Two Bedrooms
•Two Reception Rooms
•Fully Fitted Kitchen
•Family Bathroom

£94,999

Queen Street
Wednesbury

•Semi Detached
•Three Bedrooms
•Two Reception Rooms
•Fully Fitted Kitchen
•Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £90,000

Dudley Road
Tipton

•TERRACED
•TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
•KITCHEN
•DOWNSTAIRS TOILET
•REAR GARDEN
•TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
•FAMILY BATHROOM
•MUST VIEW!!
•TWO BEDROOMS
•IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS

£84,950

Booth Street
Wednesbury

•TERRACED PROPERTY
•ONE RECEPTION ROOM
•TWO BEDROOMS
•FULLY FITTED KITCHEN
•REAR GARDEN
•SECURE REAR PARKING
•FAMILY BATHROOM
•MUST VIEW!!!
•GAS CENTRAL HEATING
•VIEWING ADVISED

Offers in Excess of £84,000

Franchise Gardens
Wednesbury

•3 Bedrooms
•Mid Terrace
•Spacious Lounge
•Cloak Room
•Upstairs Family Bathroom
•Downstairs W.C.
•Diner
•No Upward Chain
•Ideal for First Time Buyers
•Viewing Advised

Offers in Excess of £80,000

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and efficiently
as possible

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Bagnalls Wharf
Wednesbury

•Second Floor Apartment
•Two Bedrooms
•Lounge
•Fully Fitted Kitchen
•Bathroom
•Parking Areas
•Double Glazing
•No Chain
•Ideal For First Time Buyers
•Viewing Advised

£77,500

Vauxhall Road
Birmingham

•ONE BEDROOM FLAT
•GROUND FLOOR
•GAS CENTRAL HEATING
•SPACIOUS LOUNGE
•BATHROOM

Offers In The Region Of £69.950

Elwell Street
Wednesbury

•FIRST FLOOR MASIONETTE
•ONE BEDROOM
•LIVING ROOM
•KITCHEN
•BATHROOM

£64,950

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Conveniently situated for town centre shops

THIS individual and deceptively spacious home in Greystone Passage, Dudley lies in a convenient position for the town centre. It is for sale through Select Property at £210,000 with no chain.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance porch, hall, a large lounge/diner with a fireplace, a kitchen/breakfast room with units, working surfaces and a large picture window, a ground floor WC, utility room, three bedrooms, bathroom and separate shower room, garage and gardens. Call Select Property on 01384 277701 or visit www.selectsalesandlettings.com

Bartrams

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www.bartrams.com

VICARAGE ROAD, B71 1AE

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Downstairs W.C
- Freehold

£127,000

FORMER CHURCHFIELD TAVERN,

- Residential Development Opportunity
- Over 1 Acre Approx.
- Full Planning Consent
- Available Now
- Plans Available On Request

£475,000

GRAFTON ROAD, B71 4EG

OPEN VIEWING

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- EPC RATING D, Freehold
- Open Viewing 20/09/2014
- At 11.30AM 0121 601 9370 To Book

Offers in Excess of £139,999

FARLEY ROAD, B70 9AN

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- EPC RATING B, Freehold

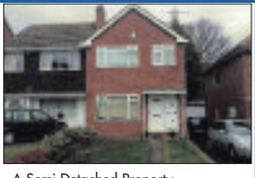
£149,950

CHARLEMONT ROAD, B71 3HX

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Conservatory & Garage At Rear
- EPC RATING E, Freehold

£169,950

ANDREW ROAD, B71 3QP



- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Freehold Being Purchased
- EPC RATING D, No Upward Chain

£119,950

HOBART ROAD, DY4 9LQ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Freehold
- EPC RATING C

£112,500

HOLLYHEDGE ROAD, B71 3AH

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Two Reception Rooms
- EPC RATING C, Freehold

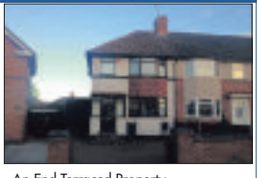
£159,950

BASSETT ROAD, WS10 0HH

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing
- Central Heating
- EPC RATING D, Freehold

£94,950

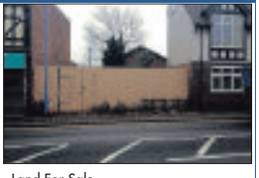
CRANKHALL LANE, WS10 0DY



- An End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating
- EPC RATING E

£99,950

WALSALL STREET LAND, WS10 9EN



- Land For Sale
- Development Land
- With Outline Consent For Residential Use
- Situated On Town Centre Outskirts

Offers In The Excess Of £50,000

BURRS DRIVE, WS10 0BB

- A First Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Private Allocated Parking
- 50% Shared Ownership, Leasehold

£43,249 50% Shared Ownership

Bartrams

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HOLLYHEDGE ROAD, B71 3AA

- A Traditional Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory, EPC Rating E
- Garage, Freehold

£279,950

LILY STREET, B71 1QE

- Maisonette For Let
- One Bedroom
- Double Glazed & Central Heating
- Available To View Now
- Credit Check Required

£400 PCM £400 DEPOSIT

SOLLY GROVE, DY4 0HS

- A One Bedroom Apartment
- Fully Furnished
- Viewing Be Appointment Only
- No Pets, No Smokers
- Available Now

£450 PCM £450 DEPOSIT

PRINCES GATE, B70 6HU

- Second Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Double Glazed & Central Heating
- No Pets
- Allocated Car Parking

£395 PCM £395 DEPOSIT

MILLERSDALE DRIVE, B71 3PX

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Side Garage
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Front And Rear Gardens

£600 PCM £600 DEPOSIT

CAMBERLEY, B71 3PE

- A Split Level Flat
- Two Bedrooms
- 6 Month Tenancy Agreement
- Credit/Reference Required
- Available Soon

£375 PCM £375 DEPOSIT

HOBART ROAD, DY4 9LQ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- 6 Month Tenancy Agreement
- Available Mid October
- Credit Reference Required

£550 PCM £550 DEPOSIT

Bartrams Sales and Lettings Limited
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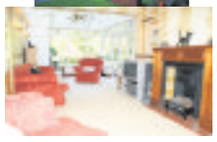
Halesowen



Carters Lane
* Extended semi detached
* Three bedrooms
* Three reception rooms
* Breakfast kitchen
* Double Garage
* Large rear garden EPC=D

Offers in the region of £289,950

Quinton

High Street
* Terraced House
* Three bedrooms
* Two reception rooms
* Well appointed bathroom
* Rear garden
* No chain EPC=tbc

Offers in the region of £179,950

Quinton

Highfield Lane

* Three bedroom detached house
* Large garage
* Extensive rear garden
* Full of potential
* Some modernisation and improvement required so should be of interest to both families and Investors/Builders. EPC=tbc

Guide Price £210,000

Halesowen

Narrow Lane
* Detached house
* Three living rooms
* Study* Downstairs wc and utility
* Five bedrooms one with en-suite
* Bathroom * Pleasant garden
*Timber Garage EPC = D

Offers in the region of £305,000

Halesowen

Belgrave Road

* Mid terraced property
* Breakfast kitchen
* Three Bedrooms
* Garage
EPC=tbc

Offers in the region of £139,950

Bartley Green

Adams Hill

* Link detached house
* Kitchen/Dining room
* Living room
* Two bedrooms
* Shower room
* Garage EPC=tbc

Offers in the region of £149,950

Quinton

Quinton Lane

* Traditional style semi detached
* Three bedrooms
* Breakfast Kitchen
* Through living room
* Utility,Downstairs WC and Conservatory
* Large rear garden EPC=D

Offers in the region of £214,950

Oldbury Tividale

Gibbet Hill
* Split level detached house
* Open plan living space
* Fitted cloakroom
* Four bedrooms
* En suite shower room
* Utility
* Double garage
EPC =C

Offers in the region of £339,999

Halesowen

Narrow Lane

* Detached House
*Three Bedrooms
* Through Living Room
* Downstairs WC
* Garage
EPC = D

Offers in the region of £159,950

Bartley Green

Eves Croft

* Spacious semi detached house
* Three Bedrooms
* Two Reception Rooms
* Breakfast Kitchen
* Conservatory
* Garage
* No Chain EPC=E

£174,950

Oldbury

Bristnall Hall Road

* Semi detached
* 3 bedrooms
* 2 Reception Rooms
* In need of general modernisation and improvement
* NO CHAIN EPC=tbc

£99,950

Oldbury

Bristnall Hall Road

* Semi detached
* 3 bedrooms
* 2 Reception Rooms
* Garage
* In need of general modernisation and improvement
* NO CHAIN EPC=F

£124,950

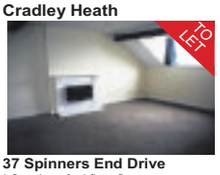
Cradley Heath

Higgs Field Crescent

* Spacious detached bungalow
* Two bedrooms
* Guest cloakroom
* Conservatory
* Garage
EPC = D

Offers in the region of £199,950

Cradley Heath



37 Spinners End Drive
* Spacious 2nd floor flat
* Double bedroom with fitted wardrobe
* Large living room * Kitchen with oven and fridge * DG windows & storage heating * Allocated parking space
* Convenient location
* Available now! * EPC=D

Monthly rent of £375+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Dudley

Flat 5 Festival Court
St. Johns Street
* 2 bedroom ground floor flat
* SUPERB VALUE FOR MONEY
* Kitchen with essential appliances
* Spacious living room with 'Juliet' balcony * Bathroom with shower
* Secure gated car park & allocated space * DGW * Electric heating
* EPC=C

Monthly rent of £395+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Cradley Heath

Flat 10 Beechwood Court
437 Halesowen Road
* REFURBISHED One bedroom 1st floor flat * Excellent finish with new carpets * Living room with storage cupboard * Fitted kitchen * Bathroom with shower over bath * Car space within communal grounds
* Available Now! * EPC=C

Monthly rent of £350+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.

Taylors

the property professionals

Halesowen 0121 550 3978 | Bearwood 0121 434 4345 | Brierley Hill 01384 265265 | Also at Stourbridge, Sedgley and Kingswinford

OLDBURY, Silverlands Aveune
.Delightful 3 bed semi .Spacious accommodation
.Cul-de-sac position .views over park
.gas radiator heating & double glazing
.Porch .Entrance hall
.Lounge .Dining room
.Fitted kitchen .Downstairs w.c
.3 Bedrooms .Attractive bathroom
.Garage .Pleasant garden .EPC E .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £209,950

BEARWOOD, Upper St Marys Road
.Spacious, well presented 2 bed mid terrace
.Popular location convenient for Bearwood Town Centre
.Handy for Warley Woods
.Entrance hall .Lounge and separate dining room
.Fitted Kitchen
.2 Double bedrooms
.Re-fitted shower room
.Pleasant garden .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £159,950

OLDBURY, Warwick Road
.Well presented 2 bed semi (previously 3 bed)
.Cul-de-sac position .Popular neighbourhood
.Plasant distant views from the rear
.Entrance hall
.Delightful through lounge/dining area
.utility area .Shower/wet room .Fitted kitchen
.2 Double bedrooms
.Bathroom .Pleasant garden .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £149,950

SMETHWICK, Shireland Road
.Deceptively spacious 3 bed mid terrace
.Convenient for local shopping facilities and amenities
.2 Reception rooms
.Kitchen
.Downstairs bathroom
.3 Bedrooms (bed 3 accessed via bed 2)
.Rear garden area
.EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £104,500

OLDBURY, Queensridge Court, Queensway
.2 Bed ground floor retirement flat
.No upward chain .Convenient location
.Approached via communal entrance
.Entrance hall
.Spacious open plan lounge/fitted kitchen area
.2 Bedrooms
.Shower/Wet room .Communal lounge .Communal parking
.EPC B .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £95,000 for a 75% share

TIVIDALE, OLDBURY, Taylor Way
.Delightful, modern 3 bed detached
.Gas radiator heating & double glazing
.Porch .Hall .Spacious lounge .Dining room
.Fitted kitchen .Utility
.Master bedroom with shower room en-suite
.Super bathroom
.Small garage/useful store
.Pleasant garden .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £189,950

OLDBURY, Moat Road
.Well presented, spacious 3 Bed semi detached
.Popular location
.Gas radiator heating, majority double glazing
.Entrance hall .Downstairs W.C
.Lounge .Sitting room
.Fitted dining kitchen
.3 Bedrooms .Bathroom
.Pleasant garden .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £179,950

OLDBURY, Wolverhampton Road
.3 Bed traditional style semi detached
.Convenient position .NO UPWARD CHAIN
.Gas radiator heating .Majority double glazing
.Entrance hall
.Lounge .Dining room
.Kitchen
.3 Bedrooms .Shower room
.Pleasant garden .Garage at rear .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

New price WAS £134,950, NOW £129,950

OLDBURY, Bristnall Hall Road
.Deceptive 3 bed end terrace
.Convenient position
.Double glazing & majority radiator heating
.Attractive Lounge
.Kitchen .Conservatory
.Downstairs bathroom
.3 Bedrooms .Off road parking .No upward chain
.Rear garden .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

New price WAS £119,950, NOW £109,950

OLDBURY, Mushroom Hall Road
.Deceptively spacious 3 bed mid terrace
.Conveniently situated
.Double glazing and majority radiator heating
.Entrance vestibule .Attractive lounge
.Breakfast kitchen
.3 Bedrooms .Super re-fitted bathroom
.Pleasant good sized rear garden
.Must be viewed .EPC D .BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £104,500

www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, September 18, 2014

Vauxhall's hot Astra GTC

By David Banner

An Astra GTC is available with a powerful 1.6-litre direct injection petrol engine, priced from just £20,995 on-the-road.

First seen in the Cascada convertible, and packing 200PS and 300Nm of torque, the four cylinder unit allows the GTC to achieve a top speed of 143mph and 0-60mph time in 7.3 seconds, making it the fastest non-VXR model in the Astra range.

Peak power and torque are increased by up to 30 per cent over the previous 1.6-litre turbo model, yet fuel consumption of 51mpg combined and emissions of 154g/km have meant a 13 per cent improvement in efficiency.

The engine brings sector-leading refinement to the Astra GTC range. It is the only unit in its class to feature twin balancer shafts for smooth running, while a host of sound engineering measures have been made for low noise, vibration and harshness (NVH).

Priced from £855, Vauxhall also introduced the innovative Intellilink infotainment system to the Astra GTC range.

Intuitive and user-friendly, the system features satellite navigation, voice control, Bluetooth phone and audio connectivity, picture viewer and Gracenote album art, all via its high-resolution 7in touch-screen display.

In addition, the top-of-the-range Navi 950 IntelliLink contains Europe-wide street level mapping with updates easily downloadable via USB.

Drivers can also have incoming text messages read out to them, as well as integrating their smartphones' own voice recognition functions.

"We've strengthened our Astra GTC offering with a strong and powerful 1.6-litre petrol engine and the cutting-edge Intellilink infotainment system," said Stuart Harris, Vauxhall's head of carline brand.

"Vauxhall is really throwing down the gauntlet to UK coupe sector rivals with these enhancements to our Astra GTC range."

Lifetime

With the Astra GTC and all models in its passenger car range, Vauxhall gives peace of mind for the life of the vehicle via its industry-leading Lifetime Warranty.

Available to the first owner, the warranty is valid for the lifetime of the vehicle up to a maximum of 100,000 miles.

Vauxhall has also made the top-selling Astra available with a super-smooth generation 1.6 CDTi engine, Vauxhall's cleanest-ever mid-size diesel.

Previously only available on the Zafira Tourer and the Meriva, the new 1.6 CDTi engine is now set to enhance the Astra's appeal as Vauxhall continues to significantly refresh its powertrain offer.

The much-lauded engine is available in two power outputs: 110PS and 136PS, in both hatchback and Sports Tourer body styles.

The 110PS version achieves 76.3mpg combined with CO2 emission of just 97g/km, and 72.4mpg combined and 104g/km in 136PS guise.

'It is the only unit in its class to feature twin balancer shafts.'

Quiet and refined, the 1.6 CDTi is one of the best engines in its class for noise and vibration thanks to an efficient combustion process with multiple injection, re-designed components and the use of acoustic covers.

Already Euro 6-compliant, the engine is best-in-class in noise and vibration generation.

Not only is the 1.6 CDTi super-refined, it's also clean and powerful, too.

A high-pressure common rail injection system and lean NOx trap exhaust-after treatment (LNT) improve efficiency, while a variable turbine turbocharger help make the new diesel a strong performer, too.

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What's not to like in great value fast hatch

By David Banner

Ford's Fiesta ST has long been the thinking person's fast hatchback. This latest one is no exception.

With 182PS on tap, it keeps things real and the pricing looks great as well. Ford has certainly put down a serious marker. The plushest ST3 version adds sat nav, keyless entry, cruise control, auto headlamps and wipers, power folding mirrors and electronic climate control that many owners will want.

So-called 'warm hatches' have often been a tricky sell. Why? Because there's usually a faster version that's more desirable. Warm hatches are usually bought by younger drivers who want the faster car but can't afford the insurance bills. There is an exception. Ford's Fiesta would appear to be the perfect candidate for a searing hot hatch, but in recent years, instead of a fire-breathing RS model, the pinnacle of Fiesta sporting ambition has been the ST line. But the 'Sports Technologies' variant has usually been a great car in its own right.

Now we've got another Fiesta ST to compare with earlier standard setters. Instead of the 150PS it had in previous generation form, it gets a heftier 182PS. Does this lift it into a more serious price category? Not a bit of it. Ford has kept the pricing keen, so much so that we suspect that some manufacturers of this Fiesta's opposition are starting to feel more than a little worried.

The top ST3 version we're going to look at here costs an extra £1,000, but still manages to look good value against many obvious rivals.

Ford has developed new chassis and suspension components to improve the ride quality and refinement of the car and further enhanced the Ford Electronic Power Assisted Steering system.

Unique suspension and steering tuning and better Torque Vectoring Control (eTVC) combines with a 15mm lower ride height to deliver the requisite dynamic improvements over what is already a very good chassis.

Ostentatious

Ford produce the Fiesta ST in both three and five door guises, but there are no plans to import the five-door car to the UK. But when the three-door model looks this good, I doubt too many tears will be shed. The big front grille (which can look a bit ostentatious on an ordinary poverty-spec Fiesta supermini) works well with the ST's more extrovert body styling. That runs to an imposing black honeycomb trapezoidal front grille, plus a large rear spoiler with twin air vents and twin exhaust.

Colour choices including Molten Orange and Spirit Blue and an optional style pack adds red brake calipers and grey alloy wheels to pump up the aggression a bit.

The rising beltline of the Fiesta in profile doesn't seem to bode well for the rear seat passengers in this three-door car but the Fiesta surprises with decent legroom and headroom that's manageable even for a six-footer. The windows are small and set high up, so light isn't abundant in the back but the shopping bags, coats and road atlases that owners will store there most of the time won't be overly worried.

Standard spec for all Fiesta STs runs to 17in alloy wheels, a body styling kit with a chromed dual exhaust pipe, a Quickclear heated windscreen, front fog lights, a Thatcham Category 1 alarm, a leather-trimmed ST steering wheel and gearshift knob with red stitching plus a decent quality stereo system incorporating a DAB digital radio. There's also Ford's clever Bluetooth/USB SYNC connectivity and the 'My Key' system via which you can tailor the systems of the car to your own settings communicated to it via the ignition key.

The whole point of sporty Fiestas has been to offer a generous slice of fun coupled with modest running costs. It was always thus with the old XR2 and it continues with this generation ST. Even with 182PS on tap, you'll still see 47.9mpg on the combined cycle with emissions pegged at a very reasonable 138g/km. That compares well with cars like the 208 GTI, which manages 139g/km and the Fabia vRS at 148g/km.

It's hard to see how Ford could have done a lot better with the Fiesta ST. Warm hatches are usually a difficult thing to position as there will always be that nagging feeling that if you just saved a little more, you could be in something more exciting, but the ST has long stood up very well as a model in its own right.

With 182PS on tap translating into a sprint to 62mph of just 6.9 seconds, this Fiesta is quicker than many of the proper hot hatches of not so very long ago. It'll most certainly out-handle some fairly illustrious names as well.

An integral part of bringing a warm hatch to market is managing costs and it's here that the Ford really plays its trump card. It gets 47.9mpg on the combined fuel economy cycle and emissions are rated at just 138g/km - but the biggest draw is certain to be the price tag.

At just £17,000, the base model is very tempting and even in the £19,000 ST3 guise we've looked at here, it still strongly pays the value card.

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business directory

commercial premises

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6 Property

properties wanted

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accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

APARTMENT 2 bed, Cannock, deposit / ref's required, £495pcm. Call after 7pm 01543 504770.

BEDSITS AND THREE BED FLATS, Tipton. DSS considered. 07961 301577 or 07906 878175.

BEDSITS, Hednesford, single person only. Telephone 07969 129134.

HEATH HAYS, CANNOCK 2 bed, GCH, DG, town house, car parking. £115pw. 07768 040127.

TWO BED modern house, Hednesford,conservatory, no No DSS, £525 plus deposit. 07967 375565.

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WALSALL/BLOXWICH, 3 bed house to let and rooms to let. 07825 581676 (no texts).

WILLENHALL, luxury room, furnished, working person, £59pw. Telephone 07401 089298.

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

7 Jobs

building & construction

EXPERIENCED DECORATORS required by Midland Decorators Ltd. Telephone 0121 421 3888.

EXPERIENCED Groundworkers required. Must have CSCS card. Own transport necessary. Call Brian 07970 703315

courses

NEED TO GET THE HOURS IN? CPC Driver Training. Contact QSP to book your course 0121 5652277

courses

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drivers

CLASS ONE (C+E) DRIVER wanted. Full time, permanent position with immediate start. Deliveries and collections of pallets & Trailer Exchanges. Short distance & up to 150 miles radius. Majority of vehicles Curtain Sided, with some flat bed work involved. Minimum two years experience with clean licence. £380 per week + overtime (1st 40hours @ £9.50p/h, £12p/h thereafter). West Bromwich. The Pallet Company Ltd 0121 520 3070. NO AGENCIES.

DRIVER/ WAREHOUSE PERSON required for local and nationwide deliveries (Class 2 Vehicle) and associated warehouse duties. Experience required. 42.5 hours per week, salary negotiable depending on age and experience. Applicant must hold a clean UK licence and have their driver CPC periodic training certificates.
Apply in writing to Adrian Cutler, Midland Building Products, Units 6-11 Spartan Industrial Centre, Brickhouse Lane, West Brom B70 0DH.

LOW LOADER DRIVER (C+E)/Workshop Fitter Required to move Road Resurfacing Plant. Experience driving plant would be an advantage. C+E driving experience and good mechanical knowledge essential. Must be reliable and willing to work out of hours. 40 hours per week. Knowledge of local area (Dudley/Sandwell/Wolverhampton) necessary. Please send CV and covering letter to Conor Carey, John A. Bates (Contractors) Ltd., Chance House, Sandwell Business Park, Crystal Drive, Smethwick, B66 1RD or conor.carey@hotmail.co.uk
No phone calls.

PART-TIME EDUCATION CONTRACT DRIVERS required 0121 505 7061 West Midlands Special Needs Transport.

employment wanted

EXPERIENCED BRICKLAYER requires employment, private and commercial work. Own tools and transport. 07932 844 295.

engineering

CNC MACHINIST Heidenhain Experience. Whiston Industries 01384 560606

TOOLMAKER Experienced, Large Press Tools. Whiston Industries 01384 560606

finance & accounting

ACCA TRAINEE position for finance graduates or AAT's available at Chartered Certified Accountants. Full training support in small friendly office. Write with full CV to Michael Heaven & Associates, 48 Calthorpe Road, B15 1TH

full time - general

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management / supervisory

PALLET OPERATIONS MANAGER required to work within a busy, up-to-date, purpose built pallet yard. Reporting directly to the MD you will have total responsibility for the day to day pallet operation. Experience within the pallet industry and FLT driver licence required. Salary negotiable. (0121 500 4901)

nursing & carers

TIPTON HOMECARE LTD require Community Care Workers. Applicants must be honest, trustworthy and reliable and CRB checked. Hours to suit individuals, evenings / weekends, full / part time staff. Driver preferred but not essential. Areas to be covered Tipton, West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Great Barr & Dudley. Please contact Stuart Higgins 0121 557 3649 or email stuart.higgins@tiptonhomecare.co.uk

part time - general

NEED EXTRA CASH for Christmas? £200-£2,000 pm - 0121 314 9652. www.bericher.info

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

DAEWOO MATIZ 2009, Taxed, MoT'd, 28,000 miles from new, ideal first time buyer. £2,500. 01922 646437 or 07932 084639.

HONDA CIVIC S type, IV tec, 2008, MoT/tax, FSH. Very low mileage, £6,000 ono. 07583 741 061.

HONDA JAZZ 1.4 SE CVT, automatic, all electric, sun roof, 4 new tyres, MoT and tax, very good clean condition, £2,000. 01543 502987.

KIA PICANTO 1.1 GLAMOUR Petrol, 55, black, 5Dr, 39k miles, alarm, lady owner, 8 months tax and MoT, PAS, CD, EW, AC, fsh, 55mpg. Superb condition.
£2,150
07581 583584.

MERCEDES CLC180 KOMPRESSOR SPORT 2008, petrol, auto and trip, MoT'd, no tax, 2 lady owners, FSH, 45,200 miles, immaculate.
£8,500.
07595 243927.

MERCEDES E220 CDI Avant Garde, 06 reg, fsh, 12 months MoT, stunning car, £5,000. Telephone 07954 463558.

SUZUKI GRAN VITARA 1.9 Diesel, 4WD, 09 plate, dark grey, 42,000 miles, good condition. £9,200. 07708 029969.

VW POLO SE 1.4 Petrol, 2007/57, 67,000 miles, metallic silver, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, central locking, pas, tax.
£4,450.
01785 713839.

cars under £1500

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FIAT SEICENTO Sporting, 02 reg, full MoT, low miles, yellow, good condition, power steering, alloys, £795. 07818 062869.

FORD FIESTA 1.3, 03 plate, 2 door, red, alloys, tax, MoT, 65,000 miles, some service history, very good condition, £1,295. 0121 5444023.

PEUGEOT 106 1100, 02 reg, 3dr, one previous owner, 34,000 miles (low), long MoT, Tax Nov 14, ideal 1st car £1,100. 07527 612810.

RENAULT MEGANE Hatchback, Y reg., 1349cc, full test, tax 6 months. £495. 07980 003317.

ROVER 25 1.6, 2003, auto, 82K, MoT July 2015, metallic green, drives well, £595. 01785 712638 / 07765 244041.

ROVER 75 1.8T, 03, 8 months MoT, only 68k, mint condition, £650. 01543 425045/07719 438082.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 1998 (S). Red, PAS, S/R, CD, Mot June 2015 Tax. New exhaust. SH. Lovely car. £695. o.n.o. 07983 235854.

VAUXHALL CORSA, 2000, 77,000 miles, silver, MoT till April 15, 2015, not taxed, stereo, £395 ono. 01543 878279.

VW POLO 1.4E 3 door, 2000 reg, 1 year MoT, 6mths tax, CD, power steering, elecs. This car is totally immaculate. £800. 07982 132 337.

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commercial vehicles

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£2,850.

07756 527 748.

motorbikes

ALL OLD BIKES WANTED any condition considered. Full or part bikes. 07767 880812 or 01543 274176

SUZUKI GS500 K4 2005, black, 23,000 miles, MoT, good runner, extras included. £1,200. 01922 624844.

WANTED Good quality, low mileage motorcycles. Cash on collection. Call 01902 312939 / 07748 150779.

YAMAHA XJR400, 6 months MoT, K reg, 26k, good runner, new plugs, dented tank, neadts a good clean, £450 ono. 07919 497905.

scrap vehicles

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spares & accessories

spares/parts

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tow bars & trailers

BOX TRAILER 6' x 4' , double rear doors. Cost £1,000 new, will accept £375ono. 07951 993635.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE
An application for a Premises Licence has been made by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council to Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council in respect of premises known as Dartmouth Park which are situated at Devonshire Drive, Lloyd Street, Dagger Lane, Salters Lane, Lodge Hill and A41 Expressway
The proposed application is as follows:
Sale of Alcohol for on site consumption
Friday 7th November 2014 17.00 hours to 22.00 hours
A record of the application may be inspected at Trading Standards and Licensing Section, Unit 33 Coneygree Road, Tipton, DY4 8XR during normal office hours Monday to Friday.
Any representations by interested parties or responsible authorities regarding the application must be made in writing to: Trading Standards & Licensing, Homes & Communities Directorate, Sandwell Council House, PO Box 2372, Oldbury B69 3BS
10th October 2014. (Insert correct date this must be 28 days after the day on which the application was given to the Council)
It is an offence, liable on summary conviction to a fine up to Level 5 (£5000) on the standard scale, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with the application.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.
The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan in force in the area in which it is situated.

DC/14/57417	FirstGen UK Ltd	Land Adjacent Tame Valley Canal And Railway Line, Bilport Lane, Wednesbury	Proposed construction of a standing reserve power plant and associated development.

This is a major application.

DC/14/57417	FirstGen UK Ltd	Land Adjacent Tame Valley Canal And Railway Line, Bilport Lane, Wednesbury	Proposed construction of a standing reserve power plant and associated development.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE
(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.
Mr Nick Bubalo, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

LICENSING ACT 2003
I, LOCHAN SINGH CHAWLA, POUND PALACE, 18 HIGH STREET SMETHWICK B66 1DX Herby give notice I have applied under S17 Licensing and in accordance with S12 Licensing Act 2003 for a Premises Licence for the above mentioned premises, namely
For the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, namely
MON _ SUN 07:00- 00:00
Any person wishing to make a representation regarding the application must do so in writing to Trading Standards and Licensing, Homes and Communities Directorate, Sandwell Council House, Po Box 2372, Oldbury B69 3BS. Telephone 0121 569 6537, email: licensingteam@sandwell.gov.uk not later than 6TH oct 2014. A copy of the application may be inspected during normal business hours.
It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale, under section 158 of the licensing act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.
It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale, under section 158 of the licensing act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.
PMB Licensing
AUTHORISED AGENTS
DATED 09TH SEPT 2014

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
R. Page Haulage Ltd of 9 Coppice Rise, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 1DN is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra ONE goods vehicle and NIL trailers at the operating centre at Wednesbury Asphalt Plant, Smith Road, Wednesbury WS10 0PB.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

10 Personals

personal

DIAMOND HEARTS AGENCY. Telephone 07462 270299. www.diamondhearts-agency.co.uk

MALE, 60. 6ft TALL. Non smoker. Nice, caring nature. Easy Going. Retired. WLTM nice genuine lady. Non smoker. Retired or Semi -Retired with no ties. Photo appreciated (returned). Halesowen and surrounding areas.
Box Number P19458 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, 1ES.

MALE LATE 50'S Car owner, loves animals, W.L.T.M genuine, caring, sincere lady, slim, medium build. Smoker welcome, for lasting relationship. Black Country area.
Box Number P19460 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
The Borough Council of Sandwell (Basons Lane, Oldbury) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2014, intends to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Basons Lane, Oldbury between Ferguson Drive and Queens Road. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 29/09/14 (16.30hrs), effective from 29/09/14 (08.00hrs). Traffic will be diverted via Warley Road, Queens Road and vice-versa. Purpose – removal of old and installation of new telecoms cabinets for 02 by Commhoist.

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984-SECTION 14(1)(A)
THE M5 MOTORWAY (JUNCTION 1, SANDWELL) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has made an Order on the M5 Motorway, in the Metropolitan Borough of Sandwell, to allow cable repair and routine maintenance work to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to close the slip road leading to the southbound carriageway of the M5 at Junction 1.

Work will be carried out overnight between 21:30 hours and 04:30 hours and is expected to start on Monday 29 September 2014 and continue for two nights. The Order will come into force on Monday 22 September 2014.

Vehicles being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer will be exempt from the closure. A diversion route via M5 northbound and M6 Junction 9 will be signed.

For further information, please contact Catherine Townend on 0121 687 5456.

Mike Lloyd, a Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency.

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Women seeking men

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HELEN feisty redhead with many interests including beach walks and quiet nights in, looking for male with GSOH and a passion for travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413869**

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019**

ANN slim attractive widowed but not past being loved lady, loves travel, country good conversation, WLTM kind genuine male, 35-65 for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413453**

FIONA, young 32yrs, seeks uncomplicated fun with chap any age or area, texts only please, I'm nervous on the phone. **Box: 4495861 Text Only**

MARIA tall, blonde, elegant, lady, enjoys travel, golf, dancing, weekends away, theatre, cinema. Seeks attractive tall gent with similar interests to share quality times together maybe more. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4477544**

EMS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest bloke or dad up to 40yrs for fun adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413853**

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. **Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box No: 405297**

NATALIE 22yrs attractive brunette nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes, WLTM male up to 38yrs to stay at home and have some fun with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413839**

SAMANTHA, solvent, sensual business women, 38yrs, travels a lot and seeks fun on the road. I'm married so please be discreet. **Box: 4495859 Text Only**

MAZ 36 petite curvy big blue eyes, loves music, beach walks, cosy nights with good conversation and nice wine, seeks similar likeminded male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413571**

JASMINE, 22yrs, seeks older gent for daytime meetings as she works a nightshift most days. **Box: 4495860 Text Only**

ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765**

JAN slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167**

JANET tall beautiful brunette, slim 12, separated, enjoys life, no hang ups, wanting quality time, friendship and possible romance with similar guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413415**

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 410127**

JAN 5ft8ins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTM someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931**

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412911**

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777**

JENNI, sensual lady, 23yrs seeks mature experienced man for no strings, daytime fun. **Box 4459440 Text only**

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599**

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387**

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725**

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377**

JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLTM older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412359**

JULIE really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411517**

SALLY, 36yrs, married but husband works away seeks discreet gent any age for fun only. **Text only Box: 4492484**

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active, WLTM N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441**

GILLY, voluptuous well groomed lady, seeks man to massage and pamper. Married exciting men please apply. **Tel No: 0905 002 1933 Box No: 412933**

SOPHIA very sensual black lady looking to acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413399**

PHILLY, 20yrs, just left college, seeks older man for daytime fun, must be discreet as she has strict parents. **Text only Box: 4492485**

Men seeking women

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GENT widower, late 60's, looks younger, GSOH, likes music, good food, country pursuits, seeks female, 50-60 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413173**

HARD working 50 year old male, non-smoker, seeks genuine single woman for fun times and possible LTR. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4437594**

BERN presentable chap, OHAC, own hair and teeth, 58, artist, walker, seeks lady with no ties Halesowen area. Lets meet. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4483977**

JOHN 40's, tall, athletic, active, adventurous, cheeky, tactile, fun, own teeth, loves life, seeks similar fun female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414067**

JAMES, 45yrs, solvent caring gent, recently divorced seeks genuine lady to wine and dine. Single mums welcome. **Box 4459441 Text only**

IAN 57, 6ft, big build, looking for slim lady any race who enjoys walking, travel, meals in/out good, conversation, for a good relationship. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4184039**

ALAN 49, seeks lady for discreet no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757**

BLACK guy 68, feels 45, looks 40, seeks female, 58-71, GSOH, genuine, caring for fun times and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413375**

TALL Indian gent, 53, seeks sensual lady for friendship plus, interesting chap, discreet days in and nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413315**

JOHN 70, tall, slim, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413183**

TONY young looking 50's male, 5ft 8ins, many interests, easy going, seeks slim rock chick or similar for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413275**

6FT 1ins slim, dark hair, likes walking, animals, seeking medium build female, 60-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413193**

34YR old slim, dark haired, creative, adventurous, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks likeminded female to share fun and happiness with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753**

JOHN 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, various interests, seeks female for friendship/relationship, 35-52. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413107**

RETIRED male, seeking no strings adult fun and frolics, discretion assured, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413067**

TONY young looking 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks slim rock chick, trendy for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413049**

NORTH Shropshire male, 67, N/S, solvent, GSOH, likes walks, travel, music, holidays, countryside, seeks N/S lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412867**

MAURICE gentleman, 59, gentle, kind, caring, loving, generous, seeks lady with GSOH and similar personality, slim-medium build. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412859**

SEAN 47, 5ft 8ins, average looks, seeking genuine, honest, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413945**

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Saido closing in on Shearer and Jeffers

Football

ALBION star Saido Berahino insists results come before personal accolades for England Under-21s – despite moving to third in the team's all-time scoring charts.

Berahino bagged his ninth goal in the qualifying campaign for the under-21s European Championships next year to move joint third in the scoring list.

Just former England captain Alan Shearer and former Everton and Arsenal marksman Francis Jeffers are ahead of the Baggies hot-shot, who scored twice in a 3-0 win in Moldova to keep Gareth Southgate's side top of group one with nine wins from 10 games. Berahino has netted nine times in eight games to move within four goals of Shearer and Jeffers but he said: "It's nice to hear about my record this season and hopefully I can break the total one day, but I just thank god that I've contributed to the team.

"You could see that, even though there were a few changes to the team, everyone stepped in and did their job.

"It just shows how strong we are as a group, we all gelled together and we all play together and understand each other well.

"The group is getting stronger and stronger as games are going by, so it was important that we got the victory and now we can kick on and go into the play-offs with confidence."

After playing as a central striker in Friday's win over Lithuania, Berahino was switched to a wide role in Moldova with Tottenham's Harry Kane leading the line.

Berahino said: "I've played on the left before for my club and I've played on the right, so I'm lucky enough that I can play on either side of the striker and up front if I'm required.

"It was about going out there and doing what's required for the team and I was happy to get on the scoresheet.

"I was actually disappointed with myself because I thought I had good chances, especially in the second half, to get my hat-trick.

"I could have got four really, but I'm still happy to have got the two goals and to contribute to the victory."

England Under-21s leading goalscorers: Alan Shearer 13 goals, Francis Jeffers 13, Saido Berahino 9, Frank Lampard 9, Darren Bent 9, James Milner 9, Mark Hateley 8, Carl Cort 8, Mark Robins 7, Shola Ameobi 7, Jermain Defoe 7.

Injured keeper Foster to play on

GOALKEEPER Ben Foster is ready to play on for Albion despite revealing he has broken a bone in his thumb.

Foster is hopeful the injury will heal naturally with the help of painkilling injections as he looks to help the Baggies kick-start their season.

The 31-year-old, who admitted a "schoolboy mistake" in Saturday's 2-0 defeat to Everton, returned early from international duty after taking a painful blow on his thumb with scans diagnosing a fracture, but he is hopeful the injury will not require surgery.

"Hopefully not," he said. "I am managing it pretty well and getting some injections in it to kill the pain, so it's fine.

"It is the way it is and I just have to hope it heals itself.

"I'm hopefully it will and the doctors are as well so that's that.

"It wasn't an excuse for Saturday because it's my left hand and the mistake was down to my right-hand side so I can't use that as an excuse."

Albion are without a win in the first four games of the Premier League season, leaving boss Alan Irvine under fire after his side were booed off following the Everton defeat.

It May get worse for Blues after latest loss

Birmingham City 0 Sheffield Wednesday 2

SUMMER signing Stevie May netted the opening goal as Birmingham slipped to a 2-0 home defeat to Sheffield Wednesday.

The Scotland Under-21 international, who joined the Owls in an £800,000 move from St Johnstone last month, notched his second goal since moving south in the 68th minute to provide further evidence of Wednesday's quiet revival under manager Stuart Gray.

Football

The visitors sealed the three points with a second goal a minute from time through substitute Jeremy Helan.

The win was just reward for the visitors' positive play, with the return from suspension of skipper Glenn Loovens another important factor in their victory.

Struggles

Birmingham again dropped home points – a major problem for the Blues last season – as their struggles to get out of the lower reaches of the Championship continued.

As usual, Birmingham operated a free-flowing attacking formation but it was matched by Wednesday.

The result was some open fast play from both sides, with Clayton Donaldson wasting a glorious opportunity to put the hosts ahead in the opening five minutes.

Atdhe Nuhiu could count himself unlucky not to have given Wednesday the lead three minutes later with a first-time shot which went just wide.

The near-misses continued, particularly from the home side. Wes Thomas headed over from Dave Cotterill's cross, while newcomer Brek Shea shot into the side-netting.

Wednesday had another let-off when Paul Caddis crashed a swerving 20-yarder against the outside of the post in the 33rd minute.

Goalkeeper Kieren Westwood showed great bravery when he foiled Thomas one-on-one just six yards from the Wednesday goal.

Westwood's opposite number Darren Randolph distinguished himself in a similar manner at the start of the second half.

He parried Chris Maguire's shot and then dived at the feet of Jacques Maghoma.

The Owls' Nuhiu collected an unusual yellow card. With a colleague lying injured, he caught the ball from Westwood's clearance and was promptly booked.

May broke the deadlock when he collected a pass on the left, strode across the penalty area and fired a low shot through a packed defence. Helan settled the game in the 89th minute.

Gamble pays off to win motorsport title in style

George Gamble, of Total Control Racing of Wednesbury, won the 2014 Protyre Ginetta GT5 Challenge title

GEORGE Gamble, of Total Control Racing of Wednesbury, wrapped-up the 2014 Protyre Motorsport Ginetta GT5 Challenge title in style at Donington Park Grand Prix Circuit on Sundaywith his seventh victory of the season.

Arriving at the track firmly in control at the top of the standings after a sensational maiden campaign in the category, the youngster was victorious in the first race on Saturday to require only a single point from race two to win the title for TCR.

Beginning the second encounter on the front row, Gamble made an outstanding start and surged into a lead he would never relinquish to secure his second car racing crown – having previously won the 2011 Ginetta Junior Winter Series title. "Obviously, I'm really happy", said the new champion, "I got a mega start to the second race and just thought I'd go for it. We had seriously quick lap times, quicker and quicker, it was just mega and the perfect way to win the championship."

Reflecting on a sensational year, TCR team principal Lee Brookes said: "We knew at the beginning of the season George was going to be one of the favourites after running him last year. He's looked after the car, the championship and has just controlled it."

Gabby is eyeing up England comeback

VILLA striker Gabby Agbonlahor is looking to win back a place in the England squad.

His clubmate Fabian Delph is already there and Agbonlahor believes Villa's great start to the season could persuade Roy Hodgson to pick him.

The forward recently signed a new, four-year deal at Villa and has promised to repay the club's faith.

TheBirmingham-born, 27-year-old,who has made more than 300 appearances for Villa, insists he had no hesitation in extending his stay at the club he joined as a schoolboy.

"It's a great feeling to be signing for Aston Villa," said the England international.

"It was not a hard decision, for myself and the club it was easy to get it sorted.

"The club has been great to me and the fans have been great through hard times and the last three or four years have been hard times for the club.

"They have stuck by me as a player and hopefully I can pay them back through my performances over the next four years.

"It's a fantastic feeling for me to commit my future to Aston Villa."

Ninth place for Lines in Racing Cup

STEWART Lines, from Sutton Coldfield, has finished ninth in this year's Milltek Volkswagen Racing Cup.

The Birmingham-born businessman posted a 13th place in his Maximum Motorsport Volkswagen Scirocco in the final race of the season at Donington Park track in Leicestershire at the weekend .

Lines, who runs his own team, posted eight top-10 finishes in the 14-race series and has vowed to make a bigger impression next year.

"I've learned a lot this year and I'll come back bigger, better and stronger in 2015," said Lines."I feel Maximum Motorsport now has a solid foundation to build on in the series for next year."

Champions are beaten by George

THE George 1st team entertained KGV, who have already won the Warwick & Worcester Premier Division 1 crown green bowls title, while the hosts needed to win to stay in with a chance of claiming runners-up.

After the first four, the George held a 10-shot lead with Jamie Dunn winning 21-6 backed up by Elliott McGuinness, 21-18.

The George pulled away from KGV in the middle four with wins by Shane Day, 21-12, and Mick McGuinness, 21-13. The back four saw wins from Phil Clinton, 21-15, and Marc Wilson, 21-19. The George won 233-209.

In the South Staffs Premier Division on Saturday, the second team went down 158-249 against Windmill.

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Hesson injury adds to Cup woe

TIPTON Town's foray in the FA Cup came to a shuddering halt on Saturday with their young, inexperienced side suffering a first half mauling in Leicester, going into the half-time break 0-3 down

The game was marred by an incident in which Tipton's Sam Hesson was injured. Blaby midfielder Tom Hill, was sent off, but during half-time, an ambulance was called for Hesson.

Blaby forged a third minute lead when skipper Aaron Preston coolly picked his spot to drive home just inside 'keeper Karl Frankham's far post. Preston added a second in the 12th minute when Medlyn miscued a clearance.

After Hill's sending off, Tipton suffered a loss of composure and although substitute Ryan Kingdon saw a goalbound effort saved by Holyoake, Blaby forged even further ahead in the 26th minute Stuart Verrall putting them 3-0 up.

After Blaby had rattled in a fourth strike in the 51st minute through Verrall, Tipton began to find some confidence and composure of their own and were rewarded with a goal for Jordan Harrison in the 66th minute.Harrison rattled Blaby again and was unlucky not to reduce the arrears further.

Berahino on England stage

ALBION striker Saido Berahino is set to star when England's best young players take on Croatia at Wolves' ground in the qualifying play offs for next year's European Under-21 Championship finals in the Czech Republic.

The side will meet the Croatians over two legs between October 8 and October 14, with the first leg taking place at Molineux.

Tickets for the clash are priced at £10 for adults and £5 for children, with Wolves chief executive Jez Moxey hoping for a capacity crowd to cheer on the young lions.

Moxey, who is also an FA Council member, said: "We're delighted that Molineux has been awarded this prestigious international fixture by the FA."

The side remained unbeaten, winning nine out of their 10 matches as they topped group one.

Foster hits back as Chris bears the Brunt

Football

ALBION keeper Ben Foster today demanded fans lay off Chris Brunt and branded criticism of the Baggies captain 'pathetic'.

Foster was angry that Brunt was singled out for abuse as supporters showed their fury during Saturday's 2-0 defeat to Everton.

Brunt was replaced by new signing Sebastian Blanco in the second half – a decision that prompted ironic cheers from home fans, who are often critical of the Northern Ireland international.

"It is absolutely ridiculous that somebody who has been an incredible servant to this club for such a long time gets that," said Foster.

"He always gives his all and he's somebody I would always have in the team. It's not needed. It is really silly. It doesn't help at all. It's pathetic, to be honest.

"Brunty is everything we're about. He works his socks off. If he very obviously wasn't putting it in or couldn't be bothered then fair enough, but that's not the case.

"If you're getting ridiculed and abused like that it affects you and there's no need for it.These are our supporters and we need our supporters to support us and not do things like that.

"You can understand frustration, but it's not like we're not trying."

Albion were booed off at full-time and Foster said: "It's disappointing. You never want to hear that. We are definitely a much better team than last season but it's just not going for us at the minute."

Brunt, who signed a new deal in the summer, received similar treatment from fans during a New Year's Day defeat to Fulham in 2013. On Saturday he booted a water bottle and threw down his tracksuit top in anger after making his way to the bench.

Disappointed

Boss Alan Irvine said: "He's bitterly disappointed. But players, coaches and managers know that at times you won't get the kind of reception that you're hoping for and you've got to be mentally strong enough to cope with that. Chris is a vastly experienced player. I'm sure he's strong enough to cope." On his own situation, under-fire Irvine admits he needs a wins fast.

FANS MUST BACK TEAM – GARDNER

CRAIG Gardner is pleading with fans to stick with Albion and claimed: "We're all in this together".

The Birmingham-born midfielder says he can understand supporters voicing their frustrations at the Baggies slow start to the season, which has seen them take just two points from the first four Premier League games.

Football

Fans made their feelings known during and after Saturday's 2-0 home defeat to Everton – with goalkeeper Ben Foster later branding criticism of skipper Chris Brunt as 'pathetic'.

Gardner says supporters need to stay with Alan Irvine and his team as they try to dig themselves out of early season trouble.

"I am a local lad. I'm a fan and I know what it feels like," he said.

"They (the fans) come to the games and they pay the wages but, as a team, including the fans, we're all in it together.

Family

"West Brom is a family club and we give it everything we can and try our hardest every week. We just need to stick together.

"I know it's frustrating but it's early in the season and I think we'll be fine."

Gardner, who joined Albion from Sunderland in the close season, believes their cause has not been helped by injuries to key players, including summer defensive signing Joleon Lescott.

But he insists no-one will shying away from the challenge ahead.

"We're a team and we will take it on the chin," he added. "No-one is hiding, we are always trying to play and get results but this is the toughest league in the world.

"We will get there. We've still got three or four players missing from the squad.

Once we get a settled team and work with that it will be better."

Gardner felt Albion were unlucky in Saturday's defeat. "We conceded a goal really early again but then in the first half I thought we were unlucky," he said.

"We played some decent stuff and worked hard and caused them problems at times.

"We had a few chances we could have converted and if we'd got one it would have been a different game."

"But Everton are a good team. We need to start winning games and getting points.

"It's still early on in the Premiership season and the team is still new and gelling together.

"Every day is crucial for us and work on the training ground is crucial but it's tough for everyone to take at the moment."

Albion's Craig Gardner battles with Everton's James McCarthy during the Baggies' 2-0 Premiership home defeat

Heathens will face big rivals

CRADLEY have picked arch-rivals Mildenhall as their National League play-off semi-final opponents.

Heathens bosses got the choice after topping the table and have opted to face the side which pipped them to the title two years ago in controversial circumstances at King's Lynn. The teams will meet over two legs with the winners facing Coventry or Kent in the final.

The first leg will take place at Monmore on Tuesday, September 23 with the return at West Row on Sunday, October 5. Heathens have reserved Tuesday, October 7 for the home leg of the Knockout Cup Final should they see off Coventry. The away leg against the Storm has yet to be arranged.

The Heathens/Fen Tigers rivalry stems from the 2012 play-off final.

After Adam Roynon and Mildenhall's Stefan Nielsen collided, Mildenhall co-promoter Chris Louis entered the officials' box in contravention of the rules and discussed the incident with referee Dave Robinson before the decision was taken to exclude the Heathens skipper.

New boy brings Darlaston victory

DARLASTON made it two consecutive wins and kept their first clean sheet of the season in this hard-fought victory at Long Lane, helped by new boy Richard Young.

The signing from Sporting Khalsa, on as a substitute for the injured Reeves, whipped in a superb cross, met by Swann with a header from six yards out.

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